
Liberty: So

THE NEWS

hunt is for men from technics

Correspondent
employment rate last
for new graduates of
was half as high
for new university
a report published
shows.

Percentage of first-degree
graduates believed
employed six months
last was 8.7 per
cent, compared with
5.5 per cent in
1977, according to
a survey by the Central
Office for University and
College Careers and
Employment Services.

Of 13,878 first-degree
graduates from polytechnics
last year, 60,066 from
universities, both records.
The women graduates
technics was up by a
men constituted 33.3
per cent of polytechnic
graduates, compared
with 30.9 per cent of
university graduates.

polytechnic and the
graduate unemployment
show an improvement
the previous year,
were 9.4 per cent
and 10.1 per cent
respectively.

ys report, which is
to polytechnics
or universities were
last month, indicates
n had more difficulty
jobs than men: 10.1
of women were still
d in December, 1977,
with 7.9 per cent of

polytechnic unemploy-
also differed sharply
to the field of study.
per cent of graduates
employed, compared
per cent of science
9.3 per cent of
in social studies, 10.7
language and litera-
12.1 in other arts
and 14.2 in art and
music.

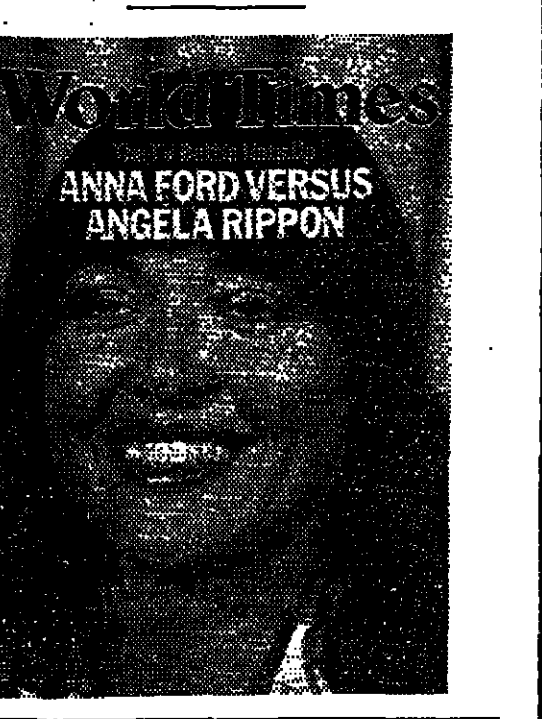
3,344 polytechnic
awarded Higher
iplomas last year, 6.7
were unemployed in
1977. A fifth of all
arts chose to continue
its study, a big in-
crease the previous year,
gests a continuing
graduate status", the
First Degree and
us 1977: Some details
situation and employ-
ment for Appointments
Serford House, Prentice
and Road, Manchester,
Sp).

of £800 on
company
prochore
Responsible

company said to have
eading descriptions in
brochure was fined
magistrates at Roch-
x, yesterday. Club 32
d, of Western Road,
London, pleaded
our summonses under
Descriptions Act for
making false state-
ment accommodation and
provided by the Costa
Brava, Forst, for the
prose-
£120 two weeks visit
omantic holiday you
s dreamed of and will
member". He said it
to a nightmare for
ple.
accommodation was des-
a large, attractive
minutes from the
heals prepared by
chef.

the villa was a series
shots over a noisy cat-
ched by two flights
from the noisy main
a bus station. Rooms
y and the only furni-
a table, a chair, a bed
atress but no pillows
and "only a super-
lete could have got to
in two minutes."

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NHS in crisis 2: Frustration blamed for rise in militancy Friction that brings suffering to patients

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

National Health Service work-
ers never used to strike. The
birth of the NHS was a great
socialist victory, and its employ-
ees were part of a family. So
why the decline of morale and
the rise of militancy in recent
years?

Partly to blame is the fact
that NHS blue-collar workers
are one of the lowest paid
groups in the country, and they
believe that governments have
abused their tolerance and good
will.

An additional reason is the
decline of the family at-
mosphere, the corollary of which
is the increasing volatility and
expression of group interests through
a host of trade unions, now
solidly entrenched.

The NHS uses the Whitley
system for national bargaining,
giving equal management-staff
representation on the negoti-
ating machinery, but below
that there is no formally recog-
nized collective bargaining
machinery. That, coupled with
the fact that management policy
decisions extend no lower than area
health authorities, leaves work-
ers remote and ill informed.

As a result, health service
workers, while no more milit-
ant than other groups, are
pushed into taking action out
of frustration because there is
no satisfactory system through
which to negotiate a way out of
their grievances.

The second in a series
of six articles on the
condition and outlook
for the National Health
Service.

Consultation, an intrinsic and
indispensable part of modern
industrial relations, is left to
area health authorities to
organize, and there are conse-
quently wide disparities
throughout the country in the
efficiency with which it is con-
ducted.

In some places joint consulta-
tive committees operate at all
levels; in a few places they are
applied to selected grades, and
one or two places do not have
them at all. Occasionally the
machinery is invoked to settle
disputes, but it is a poor substi-
tute for the real thing. It is
not close enough to the shop
floor.

The Advisory, Conciliation
and Arbitration Service (Acas)
says bluntly that one of the
commonest reasons for its in-
volvement in the NHS is the
inadequacy of grievance and
discipline procedures. Lack of
clarity, consistency and commit-
ment in NHS procedures, Acas
says, "is indicative of the
weakness of its industrial rela-
tions policy-making machinery
and also of the gaps in collec-
tive bargaining machinery".

The NHS has never properly
geared itself for negotiating
with the unions. It lacks the

organization, the industrial
relations experts and the
management skills for coping
with disputes efficiently. The
situation is so acute that Acas
has advised a comprehensive
overhaul of NHS staff/indus-
trial relations policy.

The 1974 reorganization of
the NHS has worsened indus-
trial relations. The new five-
tier structure allowed the
development of policy at
several levels, which has led
to lack of continuity with its
inevitable spin-off of labour
troubles from a workforce that
cannot understand what man-
agements are up to.

The surge of union activity
in the NHS has yet to sort
itself out, and at present there
is still an atmosphere of rivalry
for members, particularly
among the ancillary grades.
There is constant friction be-
tween the transport workers'
union, the general land munici-
pal workers, the National
Union of Public Employees
(Nupe) and the Confederation
of Health Service Employees
(Cohse).

Cohse, which shares its place
as the biggest NHS union with
Nupe, both of which have about
220,000 members, is strongly
critical of Lord MacArthur's
review of the Whitley Council
system a few years ago for not
proposing a mechanism to re-
duce the number of unions.

In all, 43 bodies represent
NHS staff and there is frequent
friction between those affiliated

to the TUC and those not. And
the fuse to that time-bomb is
the closed-shop controversy. The
double is heightened by the
distinct lack of guidance from
the top tiers of unions and
management about who should
represent whom: the so-called
spheres of influence. So there
is no effective means of sorting
things out.

Peace, in its submission to the
Royal Commission on the
National Health Service, which
is expected to report early next
year, says emphatically: "The
NHS has reached the stage
where it should review its in-
dustrial relations policies and
practices. Unless effective reme-
dies are introduced urgently we
can see little prospect of avoid-
ing continued deterioration in
industrial relations, with a con-
sequent frustration of manage-
ment and staff, increased labour tur-
nover, and noticeably poorer
quality patient care."

The attitude of NHS em-
ployees at all levels has un-
doubtedly changed dramatically,
particularly since the expansion
of trade union activity in the
past seven or eight years.

People rightly express abhor-
rence at strikes in the health
service and the appalling con-
sequences of some disputes to
the patients is reason enough
for urgent action. The workers,
the unions, the employers and
the politicians, joined to
blame, and hope for the future
now rests squarely on the
shoulders of the royal commis-
sioner.

SNP wants US inquiry into Linwood

From Our Correspondent
Glasgow

The Scottish National Party
yesterday placed the responsi-
bility for the number of indus-
trial disputes at Chrysler's Lin-
wood plant in Scotland on the
plant's management. The party
has written to the Chrysler Cor-
poration in Detroit, requesting
an immediate inquiry into the
Linwood management's handling
of industrial relations.

Linwood's productivity has
fallen to 68 per cent, mainly
because of absenteeism and
late starting. That has aroused
government anger after the
£162m aid for Chrysler more
than two years ago.

Mr William Wolfe, chairman
of the SNP, yesterday released
the text of a letter he has
sent to Mr John Ricardo, chair-
man of the Chrysler Corpora-
tion in Detroit, asking him to
appoint an impartial team of
four or five managers and trade
unionists from the United
States "to come forthwith to
Linwood to conduct an inquiry
into the management's handling
of industrial relations."

Mr Wolfe wrote that
Ricardo more than three years
ago a great deal had happened
since then.

"As I think you may be in
danger of being outmanoeuv-
ered by the British Labour
Government over any possible
further Treasury support which
you may seek for your corpora-
tion, and as very many people
cannot understand some of the
attitudes and practices of your
Linwood management, may I
ask you personally to appoint a
team of managers and trade
unionists from the United
States?"

"I would particularly ask
you to accept the fact that
there are widely held suspi-
cions that elements in your
Linwood management have in
fact provoked situations
likely to lead to confrontation
and industrial action. It is pos-
sible, I repeat to say, to imagine
that shortages of parts and
other inefficiencies of top
management may be covered up
by industrial disputes."

Asked at a press conference
what evidence he had to back
his criticisms, Mr Wolfe
replied: "These things are
notoriously difficult to substan-
tiate. If management is not pre-
pared to honour agreements
and to give trade unions' long-
term assurances, then there
cannot be any long-term con-
fidence in the company."

Minister's speech disrupted by Welsh language protest

Members of the Welsh Language
Society continued their
pursuit of a four-day television
channel when they disrupted a
speech by Mr John Morris, Sec-
retary of State for Wales.

He had just started speaking
at the nationalistedford when
the demonstrators, sitting in the
5,000-seat pavilion, began chant-
ing slogans and demanding a
commitment to an all-Welsh
television channel. The proceed-
ings were suspended as they were
ushered out by stewards.

Mr Morris told the demon-
strators: "You are knocking at
a door that has already been
opened."

He then announced that the
Government would seek new
legislative powers to enable
grants to be paid towards the
cost of bilingual education in
Wales. "Here lies the main
hope of the Welsh language",
he said. "If the Welsh language
is to survive, the key to its
survival is in our schools. Per-
sonally, I feel that central gov-
ernment should contribute to
ease the extra burden."

Referring to the proposed re-
ferendum on devolution, Mr
Morris said that if the assembly

MP opposes grant regulations

By Our Education
Correspondent

Some of the ablest students
at the Open University are be-
ing positively discouraged from
gaining good results in their
examinations because of the
"ridiculous" regulations govern-
ing students' grants, Mr
Walker, Conservative MP
for Worcester, said yesterday.

Under the present regulations
students who had never re-
ceived a grant for higher edu-
cation but who had obtained
degrees in their own time and
at their own expense were not
eligible for a mandatory stu-
dent grant when they were
offered a place at some other
institution of higher education
to continue their studies, Mr
Walker said. That "scandal"
must end.

Mr Walker said he knew of
one Open University graduate
who, against tough competition,
had gained a place to read
medicine and become a doctor.
Had she failed her Open Uni-
versity examinations she could
have not a grant to go to medi-
cal school, but because she had
passed she would get no grant.

Balloon's early start thought to be sabotage

The campaign against nationa-
lization of the building industry
ahead of schedule yesterday
when a large orange and
white balloon carrying slogans
took off prematurely from its
mooring at Tuckton, Dorset.

The police suspect sabotage.
Two men ran off after being
challenged by security guards.
A spokesman for Cabin, the
Campaign Against Building
Industry Nationalization, said: "It
suits us if the balloon just
drifts at 200ft up and down
the country. We are not sur-
prised that sabotage is sus-
pected: we have opponents."

Cabin has offered £100 re-
ward for the return of the bal-
loon, which it said was worth
about £1,000. The police think
it may have come down in the
sea.

Tin in botulism case 'likely to be only infected one'

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

A doctor who is investigating
the case of botulism poisoning
says it is likely that the tin of
red salmon blamed for the
incident may be the only con-
taminated one.

At the Birmingham hospital
where the four pensioners
suffering from the poison are
being treated, Dr James
Hutchinson, director of the hos-
pital's public health laboratory,
said it was highly unlikely that
the circumstances resulting in
the incident could occur again.

It had been reported from
the United States that the
Federal Food and Drug Adminis-
tration believes that a thin
strip of metal was shaved from
the lip of the tin during can-
ning at the plant in the

Warning on secrecy over nuclear energy

By Peter Hennessy

Mr James Cornford, Director
of the Outer Circle Policy Unit,
the London-based independent
"think tank", which has been
in the van of the campaign
against excessive official
secrecy, gives a warning in a
broadcast talk tonight that if
open government is not
extended to future decisions on
nuclear energy in Britain
"opposition will be forced into
irrational channels, and existing
forms of protest... will acquire
an aura of antique gentility".

Mr Cornford, a former pro-
fessor of politics at Edinburgh
University, makes his remarks
in the first of a two-part series
on official secrecy in the inter-

Man in charge of Vatican dealings with communist world has no doubts

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Aug 9

The new Pope will have to
make an early decision on the
communist problem, which has
been described as probably the
greatest challenge to his exis-
tence: the church has faced
since the early persecutions—
greater than the schism with the
East, the Protestant Reforma-
tion or the French Revolution.

Paul VI left behind him a
method of dealing with the
communist world which was the
cause of more controversy than
any other aspect of his policies.
The Vatican's diplomatic deal-
ings with communist countries
were increasing in importance
and consistent development as
the Pope's long reign drew to its
close.

This was due partly to the
Pope's conviction that ana-
themas were not enough and
that a search for practical
agreements was essential to the
church's survival in Eastern
Europe, and partly to the fact
that the negotiation was the
hands of one of the most re-
markable figures in the Curia,
Mr Agostino Casaroli, who
many others were called
back from holiday when news
came of the Pope's death.

Aged 63, Mr Casaroli is mis-
leadingly delicate in appearance
and gentle in manner. It would
be fascinating to know the first
impression the communist
leaders had of this frail-looking
priest when he began his patient
work of negotiation in Septem-
ber, 1964, with a visit to Bud-
apest.

Once his mind is made up, he
is immovable. His patience is
proverbial and he is totally con-
vinced of the necessity of seek-
ing ways by which the Roman
Catholic Church can be given
greater freedom without sacri-
fice of principles. He is in the
great tradition of Vatican diplo-
macy, that of discreet and cour-
teous insistence while avoiding
unnecessary clashes.

More important, he is a
classic example of the Roman
Catholic priestly tradition. He cannot
be labelled progressive or con-
servative, simply because he is
so essentially a priest, even
though—or because—his knowl-
edge of the world is unusually
wide.

His title is Secretary of the
Council for the Public Affairs
of the Church. This body was
established in 1967 with Pope
Paul's reform of the Curia and
replaced what was known as the
First Section of the Secretariat
of State which dealt with
"extraordinary ecclesiastical
affairs" and was itself an exten-
sion of the body set up in 1973
by Pius VI to deal with the
consequences of the French
Revolution.

It is not just this bureaucratic
connection which prompts Mr
Casaroli to compare the Russian



A Vatican worker preparing the stove that will be used to signal the result of the conclave. It was last used in June, 1963.

Pope's body taken to St Peter's

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Aug 9

Paul VI was brought to his
penultimate resting place to-
night in St Peter's, where lying-
in-state begins in the morning.
He will be buried on Saturday
beneath the basilica, but in the
ground according to his own
wish and not in a tomb in the
crypt.

His coffin will be placed to-
morrow in front of the principal
altar beneath Michelangelo's
dome. The body is already
closed within it.

On the drive through Rome a
brief stop was made at St John
Lateran, the cathedral church
of Rome where in May the Pope
made one of the most striking
of his last public appearances
to speak at the memorial ser-
vice for Signor Aldo Moro, the
murdered Christian Democratic
Party leader. On that occasion
that Pope said publicly that he
expected to be joining his dead
friend soon.

More cardinals arrived today
to prepare for the funeral on

Saturday and the election of the
Pope's successor, Cardinal Cor-
rado, the Archbishop of
Genoa, said that he felt the
Third World would carry
notable weight at the forthcom-
ing conclave. While expressing
no personal preferences, he
hoped the next Pope would
show particular interest in parts
of the world suffering the most
from poverty.

Cardinal Bernardin Gantin,
chairman of the Vatican's
Justice and peace Commission
and former Archbishop of
Cotonou, expressed the grati-
tude of the Third World for
the Pope's internationalization
of the church and the new im-
portance given to African
communities.

Asked if he saw himself as a
candidate, he replied that he
had no pretensions. "We shall
led ourselves be guided by the
Holy Spirit", he said. What
counts is not the contribution of
a single continent or of a cul-
ture, but the universal spirit
which must animate the
church.

Anglican mourners: The Arch-
bishop of Canterbury will be
represented at the Pope's
funeral by the Bishop of Lon-
don, Dr Gerald Ellison. The
funeral will also be attended
by Dr Michael Ramsey, Dr
Cogan's predecessor at Canter-
bury, and from other parts of
the Anglican Communion by
Archbishop Edward Scott,

Primate of Canada, and Arch-
bishop John Sepeku of Tan-
zania.

At 10 am on Saturday there
will be a Eucharist in St Peter's
Cathedral to give thanks
for the life of Paul VI.

The Duke of Norfolk is to
represent the Queen at the
funeral, Buckingham Palace an-
nounced last night. He will also
attend the Solemn Requiem
Mass in Westminster Cathedral
next Monday.

President Carter's wife,
Rosalynn, will lead the Ameri-
can delegation to the funeral.
Michael Binyon writes from
Moscow: A delegation of
Roman Catholic clergy from the
Soviet Union has gone to Rome
to attend the funeral, Tass re-
ported today. They are mainly
from the Baltic republics of
Lithuania and Latvia.

A Russian Orthodox Church
delegation, led by Metropolitan
Nikodim of Leningrad and
Novgorod, accompanied the
bishops. A memorial service
was held in Moscow today at
which the head of the Orthodox
Church, Patriarch Pimen,
praised the Pope's spiritual
qualities and his efforts to
establish fraternal relations be-
tween Catholics and Orthodox.

President Brezhnev sent a
telegram of condolences last
night to Cardinal Jean Villot,
in which he paid tribute to the
Pope's efforts to deepen
détente and end the arms race.

Oldest resident dies

Mrs Fanny Crosby, the oldest
resident of Fleetwood, Lan-
cashire, has died at the age of
103.

Use of direct labour is urged for council building

Private contractors should no
longer be used in local authori-
ty building work, a pamphlet
published today argues. It
recommends that all such work
should be undertaken by local
authorities' direct labour organ-
izations (DLOs).

That conclusion comes from
the Political Economy of Housing
Workshop of the Conference
of Socialist Economists.

Last month, Mr Michael
Morris, MP for Northampton,
South, wrote in a Conservative
Political Centre booklet that
DLOs were losing £400m a year
as a result of "atrocious man-
agement, appalling routine
administration, lack of commit-
ment to the workforce, and a
ludicrously generous system of
bonus schemes".

The direct labour collective

Jury out today in 'Ryder letter' trial

The jury in the "Ryder
letter" forgery trial at the
Central Criminal Court will be
sent out to consider a verdict
this morning. Judge King-
Hamilton, QC, said before he
adjourned today that he would
complete his summing-up then.

Graham Barton, aged 34, a
former British Leyland finan-
cial executive, and his wife,
Fatima, aged 32, both of Lin-
coln Gardens, Hounslow, Lon-
don, face charges arising from
a Daily Mail report in May last
year accusing British Leyland of
operating a "shush fund".

Oldest resident dies

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resident of Fleetwood, Lan-
cashire, has died at the age of
103.

WEST EUROPE

Swiss roads reopen slowly while Alps claim more victims

From Alan McGregor

Geneva, Aug 9. With a return to summer weather on the way—forecast at least—flood waters are receding and Swiss roads and railway lines are being reopened. The only north-south rail route that has remained in normal operation is the St Gotthard.

The army is helping with rehabilitation work in the Ticino, where the Locarno and Bellinzona areas have been declared disaster zones. Seven people are known to have lost their lives.

Some villages and hamlets cut off by landslides are still being supplied by helicopter. The St Gotthard Pass has been reopened but traffic will not be using the St Bernard route again before the weekend.

In the Canton of Zurich, flood water is draining off wide areas of farmland. River banks are being repaired and reinforced in case the torrential downpours of Sunday and Monday are repeated.

Mr Jean Judge, of Geneva, former president of the International Union of Alpine Associations, is among the victims of the sudden wintry conditions in the Alps.

He was 70, with two other climbers, both much younger. He was pinned down on the north face of the Matterhorn when the weather changed suddenly on Sunday evening. They inched their way up to the summit shoulder, 13,000ft, where they stayed the night.

The effort and the cold were too much for Mr Judge. After

starting the descent on Monday, he could not go on. His companions put up the bivouac tent and left him to summon help.

When the cloud cover parted, late last night, a helicopter with a searchlight set down rescuers at the tent. Mr Judge was already dead.

Chamonix, Aug 9.—One climber died of exposure and 18 were reported missing today after freak blizzards had hit the Mont Blanc range in the French Alps, rescuers said. Police rescue parties searched the area on foot after bad weather had grounded their helicopters.

Officials said that the wind had abated today but motorists were still being advised to take winter equipment on journeys over mountain passes in the Alps and Pyrenees.

On the Côte d'Azur hundreds of people fled their villas and camp sites as fires fanned by strong winds cut off coastal roads between Saint-Maxime and Saint-Tropez.

Fire-fighting aircraft helped firemen to bring the fire under control yesterday.

In northern Italy helicopters were called in today to assist in the search for possible victims of the floods and landslides in which at least 12 people died.

The police said they had still not identified four victims of Monday night's storms. Two fishermen died and two were reported missing after their boat was wrecked in high seas off the Ligurian coast.—Reuter.

Outsize Paris abattoir to be turned into museum

From Ian Murray

Paris, Aug 9

Plans are afoot to convert what has become a monument to bad planning and incompetence into a home for exhibits of French achievements in science and technology.

To draw up details of the scheme, President Giscard d'Estaing has commissioned M Roger Taillibert, a leading architect, after a special meeting to decide what to do with the sites of the former abattoirs of Paris at La Villette and at the demolished markets, Les Halles.

M Taillibert was the architect of the Montreal Olympic complex. Although he is known in France for having designed the stadium at the Parc des Princes, much of his important work has been done abroad. The President has provided him with a domestic challenge in working out a scheme for La Villette.

Four years ago the new slaughterhouse of the abattoir was at the centre of a scandal. Before the huge concrete building was even finished, it was realized that it was far too big for the job. By then 380m francs (45m) had been spent on putting up the concrete shell of half-nearly 60ft long and 75ft high. Work on the project was stopped and the abattoirs moved elsewhere, but the hall has remained as a reminder of the folly of planners.

The President believes that it can be put to good use as the home for a museum of science and technology. At the moment such exhibits as the aircraft in which Blériot flew over the Channel and the pendulum with which Foucault showed how the earth moved are crammed into a converted church which houses the national collection of arts and

crafts. The wide open spaces of the abattoir slaughterhouse would display them to better advantage.

But M Taillibert's brief goes beyond the museum. He is to take charge of planning for the whole site, including the creation of public gardens and a parkland of more than 69 acres.

While the President has been more or less explicit about La Villette, he has been less definite about Les Halles. He is strongly in favour of having gardens in the centre of the site, which is now a large hole with the huge new Metro station of Châtelet-Les Halles at the bottom of it.

The President has rejected out of hand, the idea of building an underground concert hall there as this might interfere with the design of the gardens and it might be difficult to sound proof it from the Metro.

M Jean-Philippe Leca, the Minister of Culture and Communication, has been entrusted with finding out the best site and design for the concert hall, but he has not been restricted to the site of Les Halles.

The difficulties of the head of state interfering in what could be construed as a local planning issue are evident. The President issued a statement after the special meeting saying that the site of Les Halles really was the responsibility of the City of Paris. At the root of that lies the question of who will pay for the new gardens and concert hall.

M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist Mayor of Paris, has already fallen out with the Government over the city's share of the cost of the police. He must realize that the more he has over the future of Les Halles, the more the city will probably have to pay.

France decides to end fixed price for bread

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Aug 9

For the first time since 1791 bread prices in France will return to a totally free market, the Government decided today. Only last November bakers were shutting their shops and taking to the streets in protest because M Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, had fixed bread prices.

Just how the bakers will react to their new freedom is by no means clear. The Government obviously hopes that the spirit of competition will help to keep prices down and so set a trend for when other price controls are relaxed.

Crippled airliner puts central Athens in peril

From Our Own Correspondent

Athens, Aug 9

A major air disaster was averted in Athens today when the pilot of an Olympic Airways Boeing 747 jumbo with 354 people on board, managed to fly just above roof-top level over a wide area of the capital after one engine exploded at take-off.

The airliner, which was on a direct flight to New York, failed to gain altitude. Then, as it sought to dump its fuel, it zoomed just above the crowded avenues and buildings of Athens spreading panic, before returning to Athens airport where it landed safely.

The passengers left later for New York on another Olympic Airways jumbo.

Soviet intention to change Madrid envoy reported

From Harry Dehbius

Madrid, Aug 9

The Soviet Union will shortly change its Ambassador to Spain in a move to improve relations, according to a front-page report in the independent Madrid newspaper *El País* from its Moscow correspondent.

Questioned about the story, a spokesman for the Soviet Embassy denied the knowledge of the matter. There was no immediate official comment from the Spanish Foreign Ministry.

El País reported that Mr Yuri Dubinin, chief of one of the sections of the European Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry would replace Mr Sergei Alexandrovich Bogomolov, the first Soviet Ambassador to Spain since the civil war.

The newspaper said that relations between Spain and

the Soviet Union "deteriorated in recent months as a result of the visit by the King of Spain . . . to China". It was known in Madrid diplomatic circles at the time that Soviet leaders felt that the King would have visited Russia first and were disgruntled by the warmth of his reception in Madrid.

"It seems quite probable", *El País* wrote, "that once Ambassador Dubinin has taken up his new post in Madrid, he will extend an official invitation to the Soviet Union to visit the Soviet Union."

The newspaper made no reference to the expulsion from Spain of Soviet officials after the suppression of the three Soviet officials have been thus expelled in the 18 months since full diplomatic relations were resumed.

OVERSEAS

Move to turn Beirut into open city

Beirut, Aug 9.—Lebanon is

proposing the demilitarization of Beirut by proclaiming it an "open city", informed sources reported today.

The proposal was part of a stage-by-stage security plan to end hostilities between the Syrian peace-keeping forces and Lebanon's rightist Christian militias.

The commanders of the Christian militia forces belonging to the Phalangist and National Liberal parties issued tonight a communiqué ordering their members to cease fire on all fronts and not to carry weapons or wear uniforms in public in Ashrafieh, the Christian district in east Beirut where most of the recent battles have been fought.

Political sources said the accord basically provided for a limited withdrawal by both the predominantly Syrian peace-keeping troops and the militia forces in east Beirut. Lebanese security forces will replace the Syrians in the evacuated areas.

The communiqué, which marked the first important step to control the growing violence, followed a meeting earlier in the day between President Elias Sarkis, Christian party leaders, and Colonel Sami Khatib, the Lebanese officer in charge of the peace-keeping force.

However, senior Phalangist and National Liberal officials emphasized that it was only a first step. There was no indication of a solution to the political stalemate between the Syrians and rightists. The Syrians want the "liquidation" of the militias, while the rightists want the Syrian troops to leave.

Israel today denied reports carried in the Syrian Government-controlled press that more than 400 Israeli military experts were helping the rightists in their fight against the Syrians in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Syrian artillery shelled the Christian districts of Beirut for two hours early today, breaking a 48-hour lull.

Today, the Lebanese authorities ordered Mr Abie Nathan, the Israeli peace crusader, to take his ship outside Lebanese territorial waters, threatening to deliver a cargo of emergency supplies to victims of the conflict.—AP, UPI and Reuter.

Libya and China establish diplomatic links

Peking, Aug 9.—China and

Libya today established diplomatic relations and signed economic, scientific and technical cooperation agreements.

A joint communiqué was issued by Mr Huang Hua, the Chinese Foreign Minister, and his Libyan counterpart, Mr Ali Abdul Salam Treiki.

The agreements and the setting up of diplomatic relations are the result of the visit to Beijing of Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, the Libyan Prime Minister, who arrived last Friday and is to leave tomorrow.

Libya is probably the first country to establish diplomatic relations with China without promising to break ties with the Nationalist Government in Taiwan. The communiqué does not state that Libya recognizes China "as the sole legal government representing the entire Chinese people".—Agence France-Press.

Ethiopian troops recapture rebel town in Eritrea

Addis Ababa, Aug 9.—Ethiopian

forces in Eritrea captured the town of Agordat, 75 miles north-west of Asmara, at noon today, the Central War Command announced here tonight.

This was the first important Ethiopian reconquest north of the provincial capital since a big Government offensive against Eritrean secessionists began in May.

In a broadcast statement, the command said that: "For the first time the three rival secessionist movements—the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) and the ELF-Revolutionary Command—had joined forces against Ethiopian troops."

Even when the rains had let up and Mrs Gandhi attacked the Janata Government's internal squabbles vigorously, the lunchtime passers-by strolled on without pausing to listen.

Mrs Gandhi had hoped to start a nationwide protest movement, to show her popular pull while the court cases are being prepared against alleged offenders during the emergency. She is due in a fortnight to appear in the so-called "election jeeps" case.

Mrs Gandhi expressed her sympathies with all those groups dissatisfied with Janata, attacking the Government for permitting the "atrocities" against the Untouchables in various states, and remarking that while during the emergency some fundamental rights had been curbed, this had been done openly by her Government.

She still claimed she was not interested in returning to Parliament, but ridiculed the Janata Party's efforts to bar her. While she is in power the poor and underprivileged had begun to feel their future was secure, she claimed. "It is now

Egyptian officials convinced that firm proposals by Mr Carter can benefit only their country

Backlash feared if summit fails

From Christopher Walker

Alexandria, Aug 9

The American decision to convene a tripartite summit at Camp David next month runs the risk of early and serious repercussions in the Middle East if it fails to find the elusive measure of agreement, diplomatic observers said here today.

The greater danger, they added, comes from the absence of any obvious fall-back position in the event of continued deadlock over occupied Arab land and the future of the Palestinians. Most maintain that it is impossible to conceive how Mr Sadat's initiative could survive a much-publicized failure at Camp David.

The danger was acknowledged by officials travelling with Mr Vance, the American Secretary of State. But they claimed privately that the alternative of allowing the present stalemate to continue would have created even greater risks.

In Egyptian Government circles, President Carter's decision is being treated with unconcealed delight and satisfaction. Ministers emphasize that the domestic political dangers, which would face Mr Carter in the event of failure, will ensure that the Americans exert unprecedented pressure on both sides to reach agreement.

For some months, the main aim of Egyptian diplomacy in the Middle East has been to persuade a reluctant American Government to abandon its rel-

atively uncontroversial role as mediator between the opposing sides and enter the ring with specific peace proposals of its own.

There were indications today of a widespread belief among Egyptians that the Americans are now willing to take this step, and that it can work only to the benefit of Egypt rather than Israel. But American officials who left this morning to accompany Mr Vance back to Washington after his negotiations in Jerusalem and Alexandria, would not commit themselves on this point.

In spite of the new mood of optimism here, Egyptian officials admit that considerable progress has to be made before the second time today to the more convening of a tripartite summit is not an answer in itself.

Michael Knipe writes from Jerusalem: Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, interrupted what should have been a week's holiday for the second time today to be briefed on the meetings in Alexandria between President Sadat and Mr Vance.

Mr William Quannett, one of the American diplomats who accompanied Mr Vance to Egypt, returned to Israel to report to the Israeli leader on the discussions.

Mr Yigal Yadin, the Deputy Prime Minister, also attended today's meeting as did Mr Moshe Dayan, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Ezer Weizman, the Minister of Defence. All three are expected to accompany Mr Begin to Camp David.

Office-holders preferred in American state primaries

From David Cross

Washington, Aug 9

Voters in yesterday's congressional and gubernatorial primaries favoured incumbents rather than newcomers to contend in mid-term elections in November.

In Georgia, Senator Sam Nunn and Governor George Busbee were overwhelmingly endorsed as Democratic candidates, making their reelection in November almost a foregone conclusion. Senator Robert Griffin, a popular Republican from Michigan, won 80 per cent of the vote cast; and his Republican colleague, Mr William Milliken, the present Governor, was selected as the candidate for that post without any opposition.

Senator James McClure, a Republican member for Idaho, also faced no opposition. Nor did his Democratic opposite number, Mr Dwight Jensen, a journalist, and the present Democratic Governor, Mr John Evans. In Missouri, all of the state's 10 incumbent members of the House of Representatives

were renominated, four of them without serious opposition.

The only real upset came in Georgia where Mr Lawrence McDonald, an ultra-conservative Democratic member of the Lower House, was forced into a run-off later this month when two other candidates who had refused to do national service because they objected to fighting for a system which they considered discriminated against them in the Army and in civilian life.

Mr McDonald is a doctor and a member of the John Birch Society. He was recently ordered to pay \$13,000 (£7,700) in medical costs to the family of a patient, whom he had treated with Laetrile and who died of lung cancer.

Another candidate, who has come in for personal criticism recently, fared considerably better. Mr Charles Diggs, a Democratic member of the House of Representatives from Michigan, who has been charged with taking bribes from his congressional staff, won renomination by a landslide margin. He is due to stand trial next month.

Maori to be military chief

From Our Correspondent

Wellington, Aug 9

Brigadier Brian Matauru Poananga, a distinguished soldier diplomat, is to become New Zealand's Chief of General Staff in November, in succession to Major-General R. O. P. Hassett, who is to retire.

The new army chief, who is 54, will be the first Maori to hold the post. He is at present

deputy Chief of General Staff and has a reputation for being a leader of men.

A brilliant staff officer who holds the CBE, he is proud of his Maori heritage. Maoris make up probably half the Army's strength, but because of lack of education and qualifications few progress through the non-commissioned ranks to officer status.

Bus fired on in Ankara as urban violence flares up

From Sivan Fisek

Ankara, Aug 9

The general trend of political violence in Turkey over the past few months has been its movement from urban centres to small towns and rural areas. But a flare-up in Ankara over the past 24 hours has left three dead and a score injured.

Late last night, in the politically-divided working class district of Marmara, four men fired sub-machine guns at a bus, killing two people and badly wounding about 10.

One of the attackers was caught. A witness told reporters that he thought he recognized one gunman as a former president of the Nationalist Action Party (NAP), an extremist right-wing youth

movement which is linked with the Nationalist Action Party (NAP).

Later, the Governor of Ankara announced that the gunmen had been arrested and confessed that all were known rightists.

This morning, the head of the NAP youth branch in Ankara's Kankaya district was killed in a city shop, possibly in retaliation for last night's attack. A gunman walked into the shop, shot the young man dead and walked away untroubled.

The latest incidents brought the death toll from political violence in Turkey to well over 350 this year, despite drastic measures taken by the Government, such as reinforcing city police forces with military gendarmes.

Rains drown Mrs Gandhi's protest

From Richard Wigg

Delhi, Aug 9

Mrs Gandhi failed dismally today in her attempt to launch a protest movement against the Janata Government, timed for the anniversary of the start of the anti-British "Quit India" movement in 1942, which is regarded as the beginning of the final phase of India's independence struggle.

The bombastically named "Save India" movement, which the former Prime Minister's political opponents have named the "Save India" movement, was washed out in Delhi by almost 24 hours of continuous monsoon rains, a downpour such as had not been seen in the city for 17 years, according to the Delhi Meteorological Office.

Mrs Gandhi ended up addressing a rally on the water-logged Delhi Boat Club grounds with an attendance of fewer than 3,000, probably the smallest mass rally she has ever addressed. Several busloads of her supporters from surrounding areas failed to get through because of flooding, it was said.

Leader of gang jailed over tourist's death

Delhi, Aug 9.—Charles Sobhraj,

a French national of Vietnamese origin, was jailed for seven years today for the culpable homicide of a French tourist, M Luc Solomon, in 1976.

Mr Sobhraj, according to police, led the gang of young men and women who would befriend tourists then later drug and rob them. In M Solomon's case, the drug caused his death. Mr Sobhraj is also wanted by police in Thailand and Nepal for alleged murders.

The court acquitted two of M Sobhraj's alleged accomplices, Maria Leclerc, a Canadian, and Jean Dhuimec, a French national. Miss Leclerc and M Sobhraj still face other criminal charges in India for the drug death of an Israeli tourist in Benares two years ago.

Two former gang members, Mary Ellen Ether and Barbara Smith, were pardoned for giving evidence against M Sobhraj.—UPI

Black minister attacks Nkomo 'slave trade'

From Frederick Cleary

Salisbury, Aug 9

Dr Elliott Gabellah, co-Minister of Foreign Affairs in Rhodesia's interim Government, said today that many young Maibele African children were being abducted from the country to be trained for service in the guerrilla army of Mr Joshua Nkomo, co-leader of the Patriotic Front.

"If the world knows the truth of what is happening here it will make it very much more difficult for certain governments tacitly to allow the continuance of a twentieth century slave trade", he said in a speech in Salisbury.

He called on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to deal with the situation as certain regular and charter airlines were the "new slave ships of the air, packing the lucrative cargoes of human misery from Botswana and taking them to Lusaka for transfer to Moscow, Luanda and Havana."

Dr Gabellah said that in the coming months there might be a direct, "communist military attempt, by external forces to take over Rhodesia."

After giving a history of the build-up of respective forces outside the country by the Patriotic Front leaders, Mr Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, he said all the communist members, were formed last April to combat Mr Begin's unyielding policies in the West Bank.

Most African parties have been disappointed by years removal by the Executive of certain aspects of discrimination.

minority would attempt over the country. By News that Dr David the Foreign Secretary visit Rhodesia later this reflects what appears to be a new initiative by all par resolve the settlement. The centre of attention particularly on Mr Nkomo whether or not he will how he encouraged to to Salisbury.

In recent weeks a r of Rhodesian businessmen reported to have been him in Lusaka; he is possible there has been, change of messages b him and the transition erment. All members Executive Council have reportedly that a place Mr Nkomo on the Coma has been rumoured that sent some form of prop the Government spoken conditions, which would perhaps return.

One view held here possibly even a suggestion change of attitude by Mr —who hitherto has not will only return via the of a gun—has opened up line of behind-the-scenes tive, with Dr Owen per gazing involved.

There is a growing belief that a coalition may be f between the three main A nationalists parties in the sitional Government in or present a united front a the Patriotic Front efforts at unity with Mr J fall.

Most African parties been disappointed by years removal by the Executive of certain aspects of discrimination.

Court case over Army racialism

From Nicholas Ashford

Salisbury, Aug 9

While Rhodesia's ruling Executive Council slowly begins the task of dismantling racial discrimination, a case has been heard in Salisbury magistrate's court which spotlights the extent of discrimination in the armed forces.

The case involved three white and three coloured who have refused to do national service because they objected to fighting for a system which they considered discriminated against them in the Army and in civilian life.

The three coloureds, who are members of the Zimbabwe African People's Union led by Mr Joshua Nkomo, also argued that it was unreasonable for them to

be expected to fight against the very organization they supported. All pleaded not guilty to ignoring call-up orders.

The defence submitted that the six to suspended jail sentences of between four and six months, in a remarkably sympathetic summing up he admitted that "any discrimination exists within the virus of disobedience."

It was scarcely surprising, therefore, that people who were infected by racial discrimination should lose the habit of respect for the law, he said. The defence submitted that the call-ups were invalid because they were discriminatory acts outside the authority of the National Service Act.

However, the magistrate that he had to find them because the Act, which down regulations for call whites, Coloured and A was enacted at a time racial discrimination exist the armed forces.

As Rhodesia has no E Rights the magistrate was bound to uphold the law, though, as he pointed out, legislature was not representative of the society it was posed to serve.

He added that by the time six weeks after the call-up papers the Exec Council might have got ar to abolishing discrimination the armed forces.

King Lear joins Shakespeare plays in Kazakh

From Our Own Correspondent

Moscow, Aug 9

King Lear has been translated into Kazakh and received its stage premiere in the town of Kyzyl Orda, according to Tass. The Kazakh Drama Theatre Company played to an audience from the irrigated oases near the Aral Sea. The theatre is rehearsing *Romeo and Juliet*.

Tass said that Shakespeare was performed by all 27 state drama theatres in Kazakhstan. Apart from *King Lear*, translated by the Kazakh writer, Abish Kekelbayev, the repertoire in Kazakh includes *Othello*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Comedy of Errors*, the *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Richard the Third*.

Judge rejects 'violent film' case against TV network

From Linda Greenhouse

San Francisco, Aug 9

An \$11m (£5.7m) action against the National Broadcasting Company for alleged negligence was thrown out of court yesterday after the plaintiff's lawyer conceded that he could not meet the judge's test for stripping the network of the protection of the First Amendment.

Judge Robert Dosse announced that the present state of the law required him to grant NBC's motion to dismiss the case.

He said that the First Amendment protected NBC from liability for its broadcast of the controversial television film *Born Innocent*, unless the plaintiff could prove that the network intended its viewers to imitate the violent sexual attack shown in the film.

Mr Robert Lewis, whose client, Olivia Niemi, had been attacked in a similar manner four days after the broadcast, argued that the First Amendment should not apply to his case. We will be using the First Amendment as a sword to kill

off the minds of our jury," Mr Lewis said. "I under the rubric of the Amendment."

After the dismissal was granted, Mr Lewis said, would lodge an appeal on the ground that trial judge had exceeded jurisdiction in refusing terms of what Mr Lewis brought as a negligence suit.

The heart of the debate time was a motion brought by NBC to dismiss the case on July 31 to limit the is in the case to the question whether the network had led the crime in real Speech that incites lawless vity has been viewed by Supreme Court as an exception to the First Amendment's freedom of free speech and press.

Judge Dosse granted motion on August 2, in effect transforming a negligence into a First Amendment case and placing a on the plaintiff's burden of proof. New York Times News-vice.

Miss Onassis is 'torn between East and West'

From Mario Modiano

Athens, Aug 9

The former Miss Christina Onassis was said today to be torn between her love and affection for Mr Sergei Kuzovov, her Russian husband, and the overwhelming difficulty of rearing herself away from her accustomed life style and her friends in the West.

Mrs Kuzovov is staying indoors because of an oppressive siege by cameramen and journalists who are practically camping outside her aunt's seaside villa near Athens. She has applied to the Soviet Embassy in Athens for an entry visa to the Soviet Union to be valid from the end of this month. This implies that she is prolonging her stay in Greece.

Press allegations that Mr Kuzovov is a Soviet secret service agent are known to have caused his wife much distress, but she is determined to trust his reassurances that he is not a KGB man.

Michael Binyon writes from Moscow: Mr Kuzovov told Western correspondents today that his wife would return to Moscow soon.

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SPORT



Commonwealth Games

Sharron Davies makes it a perfect Games with a gold in medley

From John Hennessy, Edmonton, Aug 9.

Sharron Davies, at the tender age of 15, gained her second gold medal in the Commonwealth Games here today. She produced another magnificent medley performance to win the 400 metres in 5:42.46sec, thereby surpassing her own British record by more than a second and a half. She had already won the 200 metres individual medley and shared the bronze medals in the women's medley relay.

In spite of a poor start, Miss Davies butted her to the lead at 50 metres and thereafter showed only her thrilling heads to the rest of the field. Cheryl Gibson, of Canada, stayed near to her on the butterfly, but Miss Davies killed her off on the breaststroke leg (once the weakest weapon in her armoury) and it was another Canadian, Becky Smith, who took up the fruitless pursuit. Miss Smith made ground on the breaststroke as she was expected to do, but she too was defeated first on the backstroke and then the front crawl. Miss Smith was finally 5.41 sec behind and Miss Gibson nearly seven seconds behind. Moira Houston, the second English entry, was fourth in 5:51.41sec.

For Miss Davies this has been, she said, "the perfect Games" although she was now mentally and physically tired and unable to face the 200 metres backstroke final later in the day. For the rest of the day it would be "eating and dancing and everything". Her regret is that Miss Houston had not reproduced her time of the national championships which would have given England the silver medal as well as the gold.

The second final, the men's 100 metres backstroke, went to Australia in the keen and powerful Glenn Patching. There was another medal for England with Gary Abraham in second place. Abraham also broke the British record in 58.48sec, but it was still half a second off the mark. Patching, 19, was the fastest in the 100 metres backstroke with Duncan Goodhew and Graham Smith, of Canada, resting their rivalry of the day before. As for the 200 metres, Goodhew took the lead and a split time gave him a lead of 0.3sec. But he could not match the Canadian's finish and was 0.43sec behind as they touched home. Smith's time 2:13.85sec is the second fastest in the world this year. Paul Naisby, of England, was third in 2:16.35sec.

England finished second yet again in the 1500 metres free-style. Simon Gray was able to step up his time from 15 minutes, 47.08 seconds in the fastest in the heat, to 15 minutes 39.39 seconds, but it was still not good enough to withstand the relentless drive of Maxwell Meeker, of Australia. Meeker cut his time by more than 29 seconds to 15 minutes 31.92 seconds, yet again the second fastest in the world this year.

And yet again the bronze went to England with Andrew Asbury, in 15 minutes 42.89 seconds. Christopher Snodgrass, of Australia, was the only one of the two handsome Canadians on either side of him at a press conference in the Commonwealth Pool last night. Asked how long he had been high diving, he replied "Three months". Kenneth Armstrong, 24, and Scott Connan, 23, who were in a mock display

of despair. They had been deprived of a gold medal by a virtual novice. It is not quite as simple as that, of course. Snodgrass has been diving off the 10 metre board since 1973 but only three months ago did he begin to get to grips with the more difficult high-tariff dives, without which it is impossible to get anywhere at international level. At 19, Snodgrass becomes the first Englishman (or Scot) to win both spring board and high board gold medals since Brian Phelps in 1966.

It was an absorbing contest, with all but the first position changing hands after every round. Snodgrass showed every effort to dislodge him. But unlike in the spring board competition, he did not finish things off like the champion he is.

He led Armstrong by 11.28 changing hands after every round. The Canadian was below his best on the running one and a half somersault with triple twist and scored only 57.31. Snodgrass needed only 46.24 for the same dive for victory. In his own words, he "didn't think properly" and performed poorly.

His marks ranged from 5.5 to 7.5 whereas these men are looking for 8.5. When the degree of difficulty had been taken into account he scored 50.22 to win by 0.83 points, a clear margin of a victory so to speak.

England find it hard to lift medal anxiety

From Richard Low, Edmonton, Aug 9.

Although Andrew Drzewiecki's bronze medal in the heavyweight class added another small measure of regained self-esteem, the Commonwealth Games must rank as a disappointment for the England weightlifting team. So much was expected but so little achieved by England's higher-class lifters that the five medals won did not bring the ledger back into positive balance as the competition concluded. Both lightweights, Michael Keenan, a light-heavyweight, failed to win medals. The greatest surprise was their failure in their clean and jerk attempts after each had lifted to within reach of a medal in the opening snatch events.

It was not only that Vic Daniels, a featherweight, Kevin Welch and Alan Wimburne, both lightweights, and Michael Keenan, a light-heavyweight, failed to win medals. The greatest surprise was their failure in their clean and jerk attempts after each had lifted to within reach of a medal in the opening snatch events.

Welch, for example, lay second and Wimburne, fourth, after the snatch with lifts of 122.5kg and 113kg respectively. There both failed three times at 122.5kg and 150kg respectively in the jerk. After a snatch of 137.5kg, Keenan was second but suffered a bad back spasm and failed three times to lift 160kg. Daniels lay fourth with 100kg but then missed his three jerk attempts at 120kg.

"We were going for medals, not just placings," Wally Holland, England's team manager, said. "It had been a world championship instead of the Commonwealth Games, our tactics would have been different. But in any case, the placing of fourth or fifth doesn't really matter. Medals do, but all that previously jerked the weights at which they failed. Edmondson's slight 1000lb may have had something to do with it, but I'm not going to use that as an excuse, Holland said. "The Canadians and Australians were better than we were, that's all. Australia won nine weightlifting medals, including three golds, and Canada also took three golds, among a total of seven medals. Whatever, the four seemed to leave their technique and concentration backstage when they went into competition on the platform. Their anxiety for medals apparently proved their undoing."

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Neville is overhauled in shooting

Calgary, Alberta, Aug 9.—John Woolley, of New Zealand, overtook Joseph Neville, a former from England in the final stage of the skeet shooting at the Commonwealth Games today to win the gold medal. Paul Bende, of England, won the silver.

Neville, who had been favourite for the title since he dominated practice competition, had missed only three birds in the first 100 shots yesterday to lead on 97 with 100 shots remaining.

At that stage Woolley and Roger Rees of Wales were trailing by one point.

The Canadian domination of shooting—there have been three out of four gold and two silver—continued yesterday when Ontario's John Woolley, a 21-year-old, rapid-fire pistol as expected. Although he set a games record of 567, Sobrian, free pistol winner at the 1974 Games, was disgusted with his score and said he would not compete in this year's world championships.

Lord Strathcona's fourth round may not have any horses, but today it had the distinction of taking some of the Commonwealth Games action away from Edmonton.

The regiment is playing host to the full bore rifle competition—the blue ribbon event on the games shooting programme on its polo ground range at the Garces Military Camp on the outskirts of this south-west prairie.

It is the only games event to take place away from Edmonton, 185 miles to the north, and although there is keen rivalry between the two Alberta cities, Calgary showed no outward sign of acknowledging its participation in the games.

The necessity for a 1,000-yard (914 metres) range with a 2,000 yard (1,829 metres) safety zone meant the fullbore rifle could not be held on the smaller Garces range in Edmonton where the other five shooting events were being contested.

A total of 25 athletes from 12 nations took part in the three-day event in sweltering heat.

Edmonton, Aug 9.—The absence from international for four years should not have their chances of dominating wrestling competition. It disputes have kept them in the arena since the 1974 Games in Tehran. D. D. K. the Indian wrestling team does not believe this will win him from repeating his previous showing in four years ago.

At the last Commonwealth Games the Indians won a total of 25 medals, but only their four gold medalists, weight 54kg Kumar, wrestling action here. Kumar will be his third Commonwealth medal. He won at Edmonton 1970.

Commonwealth Games results

Athletics

Men's 200 metres

SECOND ROUND

HEAT 1: 1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 22.56; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 22.58; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 22.59; 4. C. Smith (Can), 22.59. HEAT 2: 1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 22.56; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 22.58; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 22.59; 4. C. Smith (Can), 22.59.

Men's 100 metres butterfly

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 2:13.85; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 2:14.00; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 2:14.15; 4. C. Smith (Can), 2:14.30.

Men's 100 metres backstroke

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 1:00.30; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 1:00.45; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 1:00.60; 4. C. Smith (Can), 1:00.75.

Men's 100 metres freestyle

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 50.22; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 50.37; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 50.52; 4. C. Smith (Can), 50.67.

Men's 100 metres hurdles

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 1:30.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 1:30.15; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 1:30.30; 4. C. Smith (Can), 1:30.45.

Men's 100 metres sprint

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 10.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 10.05; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 10.10; 4. C. Smith (Can), 10.15.

Men's 100 metres relay

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 3:30.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 3:30.15; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 3:30.30; 4. C. Smith (Can), 3:30.45.

Men's 100 metres hurdle

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 1:30.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 1:30.15; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 1:30.30; 4. C. Smith (Can), 1:30.45.

Men's 100 metres sprint

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 10.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 10.05; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 10.10; 4. C. Smith (Can), 10.15.

Swimming

Men's 100 metres butterfly

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 2:13.85; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 2:14.00; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 2:14.15; 4. C. Smith (Can), 2:14.30.

Men's 100 metres backstroke

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 1:00.30; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 1:00.45; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 1:00.60; 4. C. Smith (Can), 1:00.75.

Men's 100 metres freestyle

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 50.22; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 50.37; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 50.52; 4. C. Smith (Can), 50.67.

Men's 100 metres hurdles

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 1:30.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 1:30.15; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 1:30.30; 4. C. Smith (Can), 1:30.45.

Men's 100 metres sprint

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 10.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 10.05; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 10.10; 4. C. Smith (Can), 10.15.

Men's 100 metres relay

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 3:30.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 3:30.15; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 3:30.30; 4. C. Smith (Can), 3:30.45.

Men's 100 metres hurdle

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 1:30.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 1:30.15; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 1:30.30; 4. C. Smith (Can), 1:30.45.

Men's 100 metres sprint

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 10.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 10.05; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 10.10; 4. C. Smith (Can), 10.15.

Men's 100 metres relay

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 3:30.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 3:30.15; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 3:30.30; 4. C. Smith (Can), 3:30.45.

Table Tennis

Men's 200 metres

SECOND ROUND

HEAT 1: 1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 22.56; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 22.58; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 22.59; 4. C. Smith (Can), 22.59. HEAT 2: 1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 22.56; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 22.58; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 22.59; 4. C. Smith (Can), 22.59.

Men's 100 metres butterfly

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 2:13.85; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 2:14.00; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 2:14.15; 4. C. Smith (Can), 2:14.30.

Men's 100 metres backstroke

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 1:00.30; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 1:00.45; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 1:00.60; 4. C. Smith (Can), 1:00.75.

Men's 100 metres freestyle

FINAL

1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 50.22; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 50.37; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 50.52; 4. C. Smith (Can), 50.67.

Men's 100 metres hurdles

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1. G. Quattrone (Jam), 10.00; 2. P. Naisby (Eng), 10.05; 3. P. Bende (Eng), 10.10; 4. C. Smith (Can), 10.15.

Men's 100 metres relay

FINAL

2 pts £55.45
1 pt £17.20 } /25p
Points: 4, 6, 15, 19, 24, 29, 33.
Points: 10, 12.
22nd Juhr 1978—34 1%.
LOCAL COLLECTOR...
RS, LONDON EC1.

Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

Happy days

The right things went wrong at my wedding. The hotel in which my mother-in-law had booked me to spend my last unwed night showed signs of having heard of my reservation. When I put on my white crepe slimline dress and dashing white stockings my pender, then a fact, not a fetish, wed through the front and had to be used uncomfortably. The capacious busine, hired by my father, who had led due to my advanced years to have on spared all this business anyway, ghed to a pit in route to the church was revived to give my husband no re than a foretaste of the inherent unciality of his bride.

The bride, first time around
py the bride the sun shines on, says adage, but given 1978 weather to date ore satisfactory plan might be to look a dress which will be comfortable express your personality without er covering you in goose pimples or dog you drip with sweat. If the eological office is wrong again, ding dresses tend to cost "a good as Daisy Ashford pointed out in Young Visitors and there was a time in Ethel's choice for Westminster ey of a rich satin with a humped ern of gold on the pure white and ad a long train edged with Alcum s. Her veil was of pure lace with a n of orange blossom. Her bouquet ordered to be of white dog daisies, oeph lilies and orange blossom tied with blue satin ribbon" would have ck a chord in most ambitious hearts. now; anything goes to the altar so sist from advice. Shoes I can comment Since both Mrs Troubridge and cess Caroline match if not o'er top spouses you need no longer wear pumps if the man of your choice sures a trifle short of a novelette

Second time around
Lambeth conference has hardly made as easier on remarriage even with service of blessing to follow. Two monies do require two outfits as the s mentioned in the paragraph above d out. Foiled of a church wedding, ry Mrs I converted her ravishing ile Sassoon frock into a ball gown wore a neat tussore suit from Hardy s for the serious business. incess Caroline patroized her er's favourite couturier, Dior, for her al dress and it is hard to tell who er civil ceremony. My advice, on both sons, avoid white.

Looks
rides are supposed to be beautiful. range assumption when one thinks of resses surrounding most weddings. On count have a special makeup for The which will make you feel uncomfort-

able and cause your bridegroom not to recognize you. But take it as a start in a new beauty routine for the rest of your life. Helena Rubinstein has just relaunched its Skin Dew preparation after 21 years of vibrant life. The British customarily spend too much on colour and too little on care. The Skin Dew range is not expensive and could be the key to a complexion for the future. Particularly nice: Skin Dew daytime (Sportive) at £2.95.

Stepmothers
Your place is firmly at the back, unless your husband is a widower or you are exceptionally close to the children of his first marriage. Even so, do not sit in front of elderly or vindictive relations (everyone has them, cheer up). In any



case you can be much more adventurous in what you wear than a mother of a bride. I recently counselled a handsome and much younger second wife who has a strong individual style of dress to wear something inconspicuous and felt afterwards that it is really how you behave not what you wear which will get you through a trying day.

Modest behaviour and "interesting" appearance is what I recommend.

Mother of the bride
Basically the same rules apply as for attending sports day and opening fetes at which your blushing offspring will have to be present. Aim to look calm and charming, and avoid brilliant colours which can be very taxing for the English complexion after a glass or two. Avoid also shiny fabrics which make the more matronly figure—after all she will be over the age of consent—look like a mini version of that sleek and well-boned virship the Hindenburg. A wide-brimmed hat is de rigueur and if you favour a veil, you can get your hanky/wedding cake/champagne glass up inside it. Do think about a soft knitted midi length skirt from, say, Mary Farrin with a pretty lace top and long sleeves. Crochetta do the same sort of look at a more modest price.

Ex beaux and belles
Admirers of the bride should look suitably forlorn. I recommend grey morning or lounge suit. Admirers of the bridegroom should look simply devastating preferably in St Laurent with a Diane Logan hat. And be sure to go the affair with another man. Nobody over the age of 21 should be expected to be a bridesmaid. This leaves you with (a) being upstaged by a tribe of pretty moppets who will steal your thunder and (b) upsetting your dearest girlfriend. The first is the option to take up. However tiresome and sickly in the church, small children vanish with distracted mothers or au pairs at the reception ("Jeremy do leave the Bishop's gaiters alone") or if there is a proper old-fashioned nappy around they will settle at a cosy table with lemonade and too much ice cream.

The ideal bridesmaid it has often struck me, is also the ideal candidate for anorexia nervosa, being sweet, compliant, much loved, and from a stable home which makes her want to remain a little girl forever. All pages are monsters, but why not given the ridiculous gear they are expected to don? It is most unfair to ask your friends to cough up for dresses they probably loathe. You should at least provide the material, and you can get multi-sized patterns—all sizes printed on one piece of paper—from Maudella in their now look range and also from Burda and McCall. The alternative is Laura Ashley. Closest friends, not more than two, should help you dress beforehand, help you change, and your best of all friend should be given your bouquet. This establishes her as paramount in your female peers and relieves her of the necessity of wearing Elizabethan fancy dress in tasteful mauve.

Perfect for the second wedding: a fine pleated skirt, a matching top and a lace jacket. From £90 midcalf or full length at BrideStyle, 1a Barkergate, Nottingham (NG2) 50121.



I, I, say, say!!

Every bridegroom's nightmare: is this two identical brides I see before me, or just too many bracing scotches?

On the left a cream dress, full skirted and with a train, scalloped edged panels of embroidery. Shoes £27.50, from Harrods shoe department. On the right, a white dress trimmed with lace and pink velvet, £143. Crochetta £9.00. These are Bridget Black's two

best selling designs this year, available from Harrod's bridal department. Morning dress from Moss Bros.

Drawing by Angela Landels. Photograph by John Leigh. Bridal sprays by L. Booth, St Andrews Hill, London. ECI.

A source of energy that will last for 300 years.

At the present rate of production, Britain has proved coal reserves which will last at least 300 years.

This puts Britain's Coal Industry in a strong position alongside strictly limited oil and gas supplies, and the continuing development of nuclear power. With this assured energy supply, based on coal, British Industry can plan ahead with confidence.

The benefits of being the EEC's biggest coal producer.

Britain already has the biggest mining industry in the Community, producing as much coal as the rest of the EEC put together. To replace Britain's present coal output with imported oil would worsen Britain's balance of payments by £5,000m a year. This makes coal good for Britain as a whole.

Vast modernisation programme.

To ensure that these huge reserves are available when needed the NCB, under its "Plan for Coal", is already investing heavily in developing new collieries and in expanding existing pits.

We are still proving coal reserves in Britain four times as fast as we are using them. Selby, the biggest new coal project, will produce 10 million tons of coal a year. This and other new mines are keeping British coal-mining in the forefront of mining technology.

Ever heard of a fluidised bed?

Britain is also taking a lead in the technology of using coal. Fluidised bed combustion is a new method of burning coal in industrial plant. These boilers should cost less than conventional plant and need less space. This method, in which coal is burnt in a bed of ash

or sand and which is 'fluidised' by passing air through it, offers substantial advantages to those considering new industrial boiler plant.

New ways to keep coal on the move.

There have also been spectacular advances in coal and ash handling techniques. For example, compressed air is now being used to push coal through a pipeline from bunker to boiler and ash from boiler to storage silo. The system is completely enclosed and dust free, silent running, needs little maintenance and is cheap and simple to install.

Problem-solving is our business.

Coal benefits all sorts of customers. With District Heating, coal fired plant supplies heating and hot water to whole communities. Individual users, from the biggest power station to quite small industrial plants and individual homes, can benefit from the new knowledge and equipment on coal burning.

There's an enormous amount of know-how concentrated in the NCB Technical Service, covering all aspects of the efficient use of steam and hot water heating. If you need advice on making the best use of your existing plant, information on new equipment and techniques, how much new equipment costs and what savings it can give, ask the NCB or your Industrial Fuel Distributor. Expert help is available.

The NCB has a new brochure which tells what coal has to offer you now and in the future. There are also new technical booklets dealing in more detail with all designs of industrial coal-fired boiler houses.

If you would like copies, or would like a technical expert to talk over your heating needs, write to National Coal Board, Marketing Dept., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7AE, or ring 01-235 2020.

Doing Britain and British Industry a power of good.

NCB

NEW BOOKS

Memorable visions of the mind and eye

Rio de Janeiro
By Douglas Botting, photographs by Art Kane
Vienna
By David Pryce-Jones, photographs by Thomas Höpke
Peking
By David Bonavia, photographs by Peter John Griffiths
(Time-Life Books £6.50 each)

In the matter of armchair travelling, Time-Life's "Great Cities" series stands currently at the top. It is technically superb, editorially crisp, and whilst following a fairly standard plan—200 pages, colour photographs, six chapters, one of them historical and each to conclude with a special brief "picture essay" on a theme which usually, though not always, flows from the chapter itself—the series still permits the individuality of writer and cameraman to come through. Providing they have one, of course.

I feel after reading and gazing at these three new volumes that I have spent an increasingly anxious time in Vienna, paid a depressing visit to Peking (though the food was delicious) and had the time of my life in Rio. Vienna I know a little, anyway, and dream about a lot, whilst Peking and Rio are barely familiar even from magazines and books; so in David Pryce-Jones's essay—much the best written of the three—I was looking for landmarks to top up my dream, and in the other two for the mixture of information and intelligence that can fill in the outline of a strange and fabulous place.

Rio de Janeiro is an absolute knockout. It is a knockout less for Douglas Botting—a traveller and journalist who wrote, among other things, a delightful book on Alexander von Humboldt—than for Art Kane, a New York photographer to whom Time-Life offered the marvellous city like a feast to a starving man. Plus, presumably, a helicopter on call. The result is dazzling, outrageous: I have never seen a better city-biography of this kind. Mr Kane's concluding sequence of Carnival samba scenes would take one's breath away as completely as that of the exhausted clown with whom he dizzily ends, were it not that his pictures of inky dark seas

and white sand, of steaming hillsides, candle-magic, pavement geometry and beautiful people had already done that from the start. Mr Botting is the able accompanist of this virtuoso performance: both men see their subject harmoniously and even go into the tumbling shantytowns to produce copy and pictures that retain, without any sententiousness, their own dignity and that of the poor. Even if you never see Rio, see this book.

If *Vienna* makes less impact, this is partly because its iconography is more accessible to us, partly because the city is too traumatically withdrawn to sit for an honest likeness and partly because Thomas Höpke has accepted that withdrawal too readily without going behind it. Two of Höpke's "Picture Essays"—on the Lippizaner horses and the Vienna Boys Choir, are no less predictable for showing the animals in rehearsal and the boys playing football, while his conclusion, "A Population of Stone" considers highly conventional studies of living people and old statues, of a kind familiar in city picture books West, East, North and South of the Danube. Mr Höpke does illuminate the city I have visited with a stormy twilight elevation of Schönbrunn under the snow, a knee-high kerbside shot of a starchily little girl in thick white cardigan and yellow straw hat, and, most evocative of all, with an almost ecstatic exasperation seems to be conceived, as Pryce-Jones himself remarks of Hitler's hatred for the city, out of a maddening and disappointed love.

Peking has no birds, no hills, almost no insects and almost no cars. Autumn leaves are swept off as soon as they fall, and it is expensive and the Metro, such as it is, closes at 7.30. The climate sounds horrible. The good news David Bonavia brings in his book is that individualism and frivolous nonconformity are by no means dead, and that the cooling, at every level, is managed with loving seriousness and exotic skill. Clearly he has great respect and admiration for the city in which he worked for three years, but in the context of this series it looks irredeemably ugly and does not photograph well. No helicopters over Peking.

Peter John Griffiths has



The heart of Rio, by Art Kane

It is a moving and thoughtful essay because it acknowledges that the confusions of Vienna are inexhaustible, and because its quiet exasperation seems to be conceived, as Pryce-Jones himself remarks of Hitler's hatred for the city, out of a maddening and disappointed love.

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some success with the people—it was a bright idea to start with a picture essay called "muscle-powered traffic", recording the timeless variety of carts, loads, people and beasts on the city's roads, and the sequence on contained consumer shopping nicely complements Bonavia's text, but otherwise the most memorable images are those of John Thomson, FRGS, who photographed the Manchu capital in 1871 in the manner of his contemporary, Mayhew, or *Sham Life in our Great Cities*. To the Western consciousness there is still a more disturbing imaginative reality in Thomson's tattered watchman, mouth stopped in a frozen cry, than in many modern pictures of a city whose cultural introversion, unlike Vienna, remains largely unreadable by the West. Peking is valuable as semi-archaeological documentation but Vienna are memorable visions of the eye and the mind.

Michael Ratcliffe

Disarming

The Jewish Paradox
By Nahum Goldmann
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £8.50)

Nahum Goldmann, now 84, has been described as the leader of the Jewish establishment and, simultaneously, leader of the opposition to it. He helped to found the World Jewish Congress and was its president for 12 years, being at the same time President of the World Zionist Organization. But he strongly dissects from many widely held Jewish and Zionist opinions, particularly on Israel's relations with the Arabs, believing in the urgent need for Israel to trade territory for peace and to be neutral instead of tied politically and militarily to America's coat-tails. Mr Goldmann is a cosmopolitan polyglot, subtle, arrogant, independent, inextinguishable. He thoroughly disapproves of a world organized on the basis of nation states, and if ever we achieve a more universal system we are going to need a lot of Goldmanns to run it.

Mr Goldmann's main theme is the need for Jews to rediscover who they are. What he fears for them is not another holocaust but the loss of their heritage, "the murder but suicide". He thinks the young need a challenge, and he suggests one for them: "To make Israel different from what it is today. To build an Israel which is not content with having the French original, which was presented in question and answer form, but for some reason in the English version the questions are omitted and the book's chatty informality is thereby left unexplained."

E. C. Hodgkin

Men and brothers

Colour, Class and the Victorians
English attitudes to the Negro in the mid-nineteenth century.
By Douglas A. Lorimer
(Leicester University Press/Holmes & Meier Publishers, £8.50)

Men in the nineteenth century, who thought themselves in the intellectual vanguard, missed the relation of all men to apes, and even more particularly on the relation of black men to baboons.

Learned societies discussed penis lengths and decided "scientifically" on the basis of all evidence, because it was what they wanted to believe—that the children of mixed black/white marriages must be as sterile as mules or tigers: they were against nature.

At the music halls, from their first appearance, when Victoria was still only a Princess, burnt cork nigger minstrels wowed their audiences: even Karl Marx's children sang the melodies. But when a troupe of genuine blacks from Georgia went on tour in Liverpool, the audience didn't like the dose of realism; they preferred the black up.

The Victorians were obsessed (the word is not too strong) with the "Negro Question". Douglas Lorimer's study of *Colour, Class and the Victorians* has the stiff feel of an academic thesis; but it is a scholarly and thorough attempt to pin down the nature of that obsession.

The start of it, of course, was the slave trade and the finally successful campaign for its abolition. But even that bold moral adventure had its less satisfactory side. Today there are Asians in this country who wish that charity posters did not regularly show their former compatriots as starving and, by implication, incompetent. Smugly, in *Anti-Slave Trade Propaganda*, there was a tendency to show the black as childlike and in need of care. Once it lodged home, the point could get twisted.

Lorimer's central argument is that all about 1850, the

bombs and terrorists, but as a champion of the war against poverty, illiteracy and inequality, for the abolition of the sovereign state, and for peace. This could be written off as good conference-style rhetoric, except that Mr Goldmann has enough practical achievements behind him (such as negotiating the reparations deal with Adenauer) to put him more among the judges than the prophets.

But his conversations range over a much wider field than the immediate dilemma facing the rulers of Israel. Mr Goldmann has known many of the great and has good stories to tell of them. He confesses that he only likes exceptional men, and so far as can be made out they pretty well all like and admire him. "Where does your terrible wisdom come from?" "It is impossible to argue with you, you're too clever a man." These are only two of the many fulsome tributes which he quotes—but then, as he says: "I have a fairly high opinion of myself, and I often give myself cause for it!"

Such a confession is disarming, and Nahum Goldmann has gone through life disarming the most formidable of opponents and friends. He may often be wrong, but he is never dull.

The Jewish Paradox is put together from records of conversations which Mr Goldmann had with Leon Abramowitz. This is made clear in the French original, which was presented in question and answer form, but for some reason in the English version the questions are omitted and the book's chatty informality is thereby left unexplained.

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Lorimer's central argument is that all about 1850, the

Englishman's mental habit was to assign all blacks to an inferior social (not biological) class. If they were not a kind of child, then they were a kind of servant. To speak of "black gentleness" in terms of a contradiction in terms (black facts can be overcome, sometimes): but the black would have to work hard at copying his betters.

Then a change set in. Partly because of the growth of pseudo-science, seeking in race the solution to purely political problems.

Much of this reached its zenith, or nadir, in the infamous case of Governor Eyre of Jamaica, on whom Lorimer dwells in detail. Eyre had worked his way up to becoming governor of Jamaica while remaining, as third son of a vicar, rather uncared for in his social circle. In 1865, he put down a minor rebellion with over-reaching ferocity. He was recalled and prosecuted. J. S. Mill led the attack; Carlyle and Charles Kingsley the defence (Eyre got off). English opinion was as much divided as over Suez in 1855.

Among the defenders of Eyre and the white plantocracy, the old Anti-Slave Trade slogan, "Am I not a man and a brother?", was turned against the blacks and their advocates (as shown in a famous Punch cartoon). But the real divide was over: what can you expect of blacks anyway.

The easy-going world of Palmerston had gone; the brass-tacks world of Joe Chamberlain was coming in. "Henceforth", to quote the author, "only Anglo-Saxons could be gentlemen."

Paul Barker

One in a million

Theodora. Portrait in a Byzantine Landscape.
By Antony Bridge
(Cassell, £6.50)

This is the story of a real-life Cinderella, the daughter of a bear-keeper from the Circus at Constantinople who rose to be consort of the Emperor Justinian in the words of H. A. L. Fisher: "He looked in the gutter and picked out a diamond."

The author of this remarkable book is a churchman (he is Dean of Guildford), a Byzantinist and an artist, and he brings these three sides of his character to bear on a civilization about which, as he points out, the average man or woman knows nothing.

His aim is twofold: to display to the twentieth-century reader the curious world of Byzantium, stretching in time for a thousand years between Classical antiquity and the Renaissance and more alien to us than both; and to relate the authentic rags-to-riches story of the Empress Theodora. Although, more's the pity, there are no illustrations, the bare bones of the story are fleshed out by the artist in Antony Bridge. We almost literally see the soldiers in their red and green uniforms; we feel, we almost smell the polyglot crowds in and around the Hippodrome, and the very different fairy-tale world of the Imperial Court of sixth-century Constantinople.

Theodora has always had a very bad press, because almost our only source is an unpleasant Byzantine historian by the name of Procopius, who loathed her and spared no pains to blacken her character. It has, however, been possible to get behind the venom of this tainted source to a more

balanced and surely a more accurate picture of someone who was by any standards a remarkable woman.

She was no angel: no one in her circumstances could afford to be. When we first hear of her she was a girl of great beauty who earned a sort of living on the stage and supplemented her meagre salary, as proceeds must, by casual prostitution. But, as her subsequent career was to show, she also had brains and a driving ambition. Then she caught the eye of the heir to the Empire, the prince Justinian, and became his mistress, and before long his wife.

Justinian duly became Emperor and Theodora his Empress. He came to the throne with the intention of restoring the Roman Empire, and he was near to achieving his goal. His were the imagination and the vision, hers the guts and the horse-sense. When the rival Circus factions of the Blues and the Greens combined and started the Nika riots, it was Theodora who displayed the courage which won the day.

From a courtesan she became deeply interested in religion in a society where religious disputations was a national vice, and championed the Monophysite heresy.

Her only surviving portrait, the mosaic from S. Vitale at Ravenna, reproduced on the dust-jacket, shows her in middle age, very much the Empress, and we can only guess at her former beauty; but the strength of her character comes through. Immoral she may have been, unscrupulous too on occasion, but she was a woman of a million. And she has at last found a worthy biographer.

Reynold Higgins

Unanswered question

Herod: Reflections on Political Violence
By Conor Cruise O'Brien
(Hutchinson, £6.50)

To say that one experiences a sense of unease in reading Dr O'Brien's collection of book reviews, speeches, magazine articles and didactic playlets is not to suggest that there is anything dishonest about them. It is just that, when the effect of each argument has worn off, there are some questions which remain unanswered or which seem, when they have been answered, to be none too convincingly dealt with.

In one sense, Dr O'Brien's essays amount to a reasoned condemnation of political violence, a book that is a thousand times more than all the paperish on international terrorism and investigations into urban guerrilla warfare, thrown into one. It is, of course, with Ireland that Dr O'Brien is chiefly concerned and with the Provisional IRA in particular. And for those with a built-in sense of ambivalence towards such organizations, this is powerful medicine.

Dr O'Brien, for instance, is the first man to explain so vividly why the Provisional IRA is still with us. "Its greatest blunders," as Dr O'Brien writes, "are successes if they produce more martyrs, the guarantors of ultimate victory in however remote an epoch."

In this same context, Dr O'Brien roasts his political enemies in the Famine Follies party with the ambiguity of their own record on partition and violence and he tilts in an aggressively aggressive manner against Jack Lynch for legitimizing violence, because Mr Lynch said that: "Violence is a by-product of the partition of our country." But do not the very divisions in Irish politics on both sides of the border stem from that same partition too?

One reads in the text of an O'Brien lecture delivered in Oxford last year, that the Republic of Ireland does not owe its existence to "territorial terrorism" and that the democratic and representative capacity of the Irishmen who negotiated with Lloyd George was the "real strength of their position" rather than "the rather meagre armed force behind them." This is an argument that must certainly surprise a number of British historians, let alone Irish ones.

It is, of course, essential to Dr O'Brien's argument that the present republic was not born from violence and that only

one side in Irish politics (Fianna Fail) should be aeted with this idea. In being on the other side naturally of crucial import to Dr O'Brien and his that there can be no neut or ambiguity about violence of the IRA is a core of his work.

It comes up again and particularly in regard to journalists, who can that we who work Northern Ireland still some kind of neutral reporting the conflict albeit not so neutral as of the examples quoted? And at what cost? Dr O'Brien here his legis which prohibited the broag on Irish radio or tele of interviews with IRA or vitional Sinn Féin member still wants current affa cussed, he says "intellig provoking, comprehensive; Ireland, but dislikes "neutral professionalism broadcasters. Dr O'Brien not say so but these argu have in fact had a cor effect on Irish radio and vision, which now seems to developed a chronic distas really controversial issues not the journalists' neat has almost var because of Dr O'Brien's mens, but the profession

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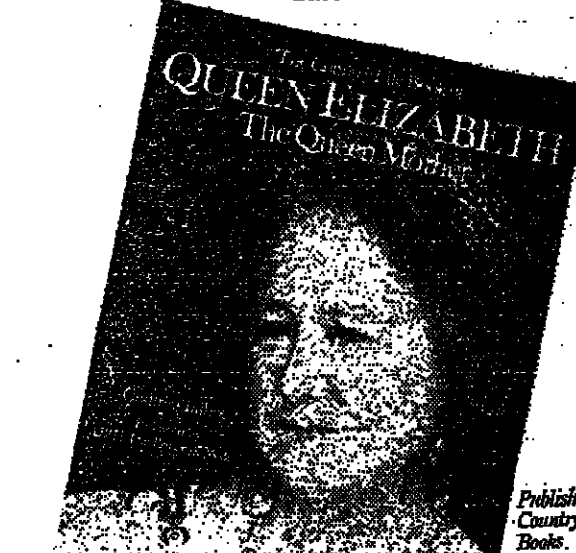
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THE QUESTION OF TERRITORY

Just every imaginable diplomatic procedure has now been tried on the intractable Arab-Israeli conflict. There have been peace commissions, "peace talks", United Nations resolutions, missions by UN special representatives, the round-table "Camp David" Conference, and the diplomacy of Dr Kissinger. There have also been high-level bilateral meetings, first between President Carter and then, since President Carter's visit to Jerusalem, official meetings of the American, Israeli and Egyptian foreign leaders.

There is more formulae is now in vogue, which surely constitutes ultimate procedural resource. One counts the one that Sadat claims to have toyed with before announcing his trip to Jerusalem.

There are two separate issues. First, there is the question of compensating people who have still had their holiday, albeit in truncated form. They have paid for a holiday of a certain length, but have received a shorter one. Secondly, and more difficult to resolve, is the case of people who have been subjected to such a degree of discomfort and such lengthy delay that they have abandoned their holiday altogether.

Where to draw the line, in both sets of circumstances, presents difficulties. A 24-hour delay on a holiday of only a week's duration is more annoying, and more likely to spoil the entire vacation, than the same length of delay before a three-week holiday. A 12-hour overnight delay that has to be spent on the floor of a crowded airport concourse is more disagreeable than the same period being put up at a hotel near by. A family with young children will tend to reach its limit of toleration quicker than one without.

In cases where the holiday is taken, it should be possible to work out a scale of compensation based on the proportion of the holiday-time lost. Determining at what stage an enraged customer should be entitled to withdraw from his contractual obligations and claim a total refund of his money creates more complex difficulties. How far should personal factors be taken into account? Should each case be looked at separately, or would it be better to lay down a single time period, applicable to all, outside which the travel operator will be deemed to have breached the contract?

The problem is essentially this: should Israeli military occupation and civilian colonization continue, once peace is restored, beyond the frontiers that Israel had before 1967? The Israeli answer, virtually unanimous, is yes. (Division is on the amount of land to be retained, not on the principle.) The unanimous Arab answer is no. Egypt is now willing to consider minor rectifications of the demarcation lines between Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (since these were simply the ceasefire lines of 1949, not recognized international borders), but not to make any significant concession of "land or sovereignty". The American position, on this central issue, is virtually identical with the Egyptian one, which is why

Mr Sadat considers it a victory to have involved America more directly in the negotiating process. (Mr Vance has apparently assured him that at Camp David President Carter will not be a mere neutral chairman but will intervene actively in the discussions.) But Mr Carter pledged not to coerce Israel into accepting his views, both because the domestic political price of an attempt to do so would be too high and because he believes no settlement will stick unless it is voluntarily accepted by both sides; and Israel has given ample notice that her position will not be voluntarily changed.

Israel certainly anticipates a degree of American pressure, in spite of what Mr Carter says, but is confident the pressure will not be greater than she can resist. President Sadat may well find that he too is under some pressure to propose a "territorial compromise" on the West Bank. But can he do so, given that he would be making a concession not on his own behalf but on that of the Palestinians, and possibly of King Hussein? The problem is not to get agreement between three men relaxing on a country estate, but between peoples whose aspirations are still in direct conflict, in the absence of some of the most directly involved. If Mr Carter can pull that off, he will indeed have proved that faith can move mountains.

There are two separate issues. First, there is the question of compensating people who have still had their holiday, albeit in truncated form. They have paid for a holiday of a certain length, but have received a shorter one. Secondly, and more difficult to resolve, is the case of people who have been subjected to such a degree of discomfort and such lengthy delay that they have abandoned their holiday altogether.

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Two-tier local government

From Sir Jack Lunsdale

The Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Peter Shore, should be urged to include among his holiday tasks the rereading of the report of the Royal Commission on Local Government, chaired by Lord Redcliffe-Maud, which was accepted also in toto by his predecessor, Anthony Crosland.

Three years of painstaking research and study of evidence convinced the great majority of those of us who served on the Royal Commission that the previous 80 years of patched and piecemeal tinkering had produced a pattern of local government that was illogical and inefficient. In particular, the division of powers between counties and county boroughs made nonsense of the growing interdependence of town and country; and in the counties the splitting of functions between two operational tiers led to unnecessary inconsistencies between related services and rivalries between county and district authorities.

Unfortunately, the Conservative administration of 1970, in a rapidly deflected and ill thought out White Paper, decided to establish a new non-metropolitan counties, a reformed two-tier system. The County Councils Association, as it was then named, begged them on, believing that a lower operational tier might offer some kind of bulwark against the establishment of more county boroughs. All the counties with whose members and officers I have recently talked now bitterly regret, after four years' experience of the new system, the line their representatives on the CCA then took.

For one thing, they realize that much of the odium in which the public now holds local government stems from the inflated salaries and other charges which have been put up the rates of the new districts, and from the pecking order increases which the counties, too, felt they had to adopt. For another, experience of the fragmentation of services between the two tiers, especially in the field of planning, has revealed, as should have been obvious, that the new system is inefficient as well as expensive.

To give increased powers to some district councils, as Mr Shore appears to propose, would increase friction between the two tiers, and would be a step towards a system which is better handled at county level. It is also hard to believe the proposals are not inspired by a conviction that the result might be that a number of district authorities which are normally Labour controlled, would be given more political muscle.

I find a curious irony in the fact that Dick Crossman once told me that if he had had a little more political courage he would have had the Royal Commission set up 18 months earlier. If he had, when the Redcliffe-Maud reforms were in mind, something like the Redcliffe-Maud reforms would now determine the system of local government in England.

Yours faithfully,
JACK LONGLAND,
Chairman,
Bakewell,
Derbyshire,
August 8.

Orde Wingate's reputation

From Brigadier P. W. Mead

Sir, Reading Richard Rhodes James's letter (August 5), I am glad to see that he has never doubted Wingate's integrity. It is the Official History's disgraceful slurs on that integrity which Sir Robert Thompson and I are concerned to discredit. In our letter of July 31 we gave an example of one such slur, the story of the "disabling" evidence against it.

Mr James's 1944 experience was with 111 Brigade, which was not ordered to the Pinleu area until after Wingate's death. Furthermore, after only a short period, Wingate's plans were altered and the Chindits were moved north in close support of General Stilwell's Chinese. Although this and the remaining period of the 1944 China campaign are outside the scope of our present task, perhaps I might record my agreement with Mr James that the expedition did achieve much, but at too high a cost in casualties, and my disagreement with him in terming it a disaster.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MEAD,
57 Manor Way,
Blackheath, SE3,
August 5.

The disruption to holiday flights

From Mr David Tench

Sir, Mr Wilkins asks in his letter in today's *The Times* (August 8) whether there is any way he can be compensated or at least get some of his money back for the appalling experiences suffered by him and his family in having to wait over 26 hours at Gatwick airport for a flight to take him on an eight-day holiday in Majorca. There may well be.

Mr Wilkins had a contract with the tour operator concerned to provide him and his family with a holiday for a week. This contract obliged the tour operator to get them there, accommodate them, and get them back again. Nearly all tour operators booking conditions contain a clause seeking to excuse them from responsibility for things like delay. This will succeed in excusing them for delay of a few hours, of the kind commonly experienced in air travel. But it would not entitle the tour operator to wash his hands of all responsibility, if the delay goes on and on, to such an extent that the holiday promised becomes an erosion of time a completely different sort of holiday from the one promised.

The law has several means by which the tour operators' exclusion clauses would not legally mean what they say in cases of inordinate delay including, paying the full scheduled air fare and full hotel rate. This is only because tour operators undertake high risk forward commitments some 12 months in advance for aircraft seats and hotel beds, etc. The crucial point in enabling such bargains to be offered to the public is the necessity to achieve high aircraft load factors and to fulfil hotel commitments over a long period.

The recent holiday disruptions were as agonizing to the tour operators as to their customers. They spent many thousands of pounds in a dispute not of their making solely to alleviate customer hardship. And worked indefatigably round the clock to ensure that customers got the holidays they had been looking forward to for so long. Mr Luno's adverse comments on customer satisfaction from package holidays cannot be substantiated. The true facts are that over the past 20 years there has been a phenomenal growth of package holidays. Over 3½ million a year are taken and the complaint ratio is under three for each million. In other words, considerably lower than for motor vehicles, furniture, footwear, etc.

To adopt Mr Luno's suggestion would add immense costs to accounting procedures and administration. It would mean the end of such holidays, thus depriving millions of people of affordable holidays abroad.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET HOOK, President,
Association of British Travel Agents Ltd.,
55-57 Newman Street, W1.

Should doctors strike?

From Dr Tony Keable-Elliott

Sir, As Sir Denis Hill has written to you again, at length, on this topic [Should doctors strike?] and as he is so clearly misinformed, I feel I must write to you to put the record straight. As a general practitioner, I am concerned.

Firstly, we have a contract, if in the NHS, to provide primary medical care to our patients. This contract can be terminated if three months' notice is given and is a contract between us, the doctors, and the Department of Health. We may vary or terminate this contract as we think fit.

Secondly, if we provide primary medical care under the NHS we agree to accept patients for this purpose on our NHS list. This is mutually acceptable. That is to say, in normal circumstances a patient may leave a doctor's list, or a doctor may remove a patient from his list, as and when either party so wishes. It is not a "contract" of mutual convenience.

Dr Hill in his letters carelessly uses the word strike totally out of context. If a miner goes on strike he produces no coal; if an electrician goes on strike there is no electricity, and, by Dr Hill's inference, if a doctor goes on strike there is no medical service. At no time has any GP threatened or actually gone on strike, and there are no circumstances under which I would recommend such a course of action. What I have said—and I now repeat—is that there are circumstances in which it might be appropriate to advise GPs to terminate their contracts with Government, but on the clear understanding that they would continue to offer their services to patients, as and when necessary. This would not be a withdrawal of medical services, but a renunciation of a contract with Government, and is only likely if Government fails to honour an obligation freely entered into and publicly endorsed.

A general practitioner, in my view, has an absolute obligation to his patients, which he should always honour, but no obligation to Government, the more so if the doctor's dedication and services are to be exploited for political ends.

Yours faithfully,
TONY KEABLE-ELLIOTT,
Chairman, General Medical Service Committee of the BMA,
Peels,
Buckinghamshire.

Consulate at Antwerp

From Mr Alan Saunders

Sir, As a Briton living in Antwerp I would like to know why it has been decided to close down the British Consulate in Antwerp. It is a known fact that since Belgium's independence in 1830 Britain has maintained excellent trade relations with this country and its citizens in particular. I have it on good authority that 85 per cent of Britain's present-day trade with Belgium is concerned with Flanders.

British politicians must obviously be aware of Belgium's increased tendency towards devolution for "regionalism" as they call it (here) and federalism. It is therefore to be expected that the Flemish people will not appreciate Britain's decision to channel her trade solely through our representation in Brussels. Antwerp is one of the world's major sea-ports and a convenient

Mr West changes trains

From Mr Timothy West

Sir, I think I have good news for my fellow railway enthusiasts who feel that the nationalization of 1948 destroyed the peculiar individual flavour of the four main lines—the spirit of devolution is abroad.

I planned to make a journey this week from Taunton to Bournemouth—not far as the crow flies, but necessitating a change at Castle Cary and allowing nine minutes to get by foot from Dorchester West Station to Dorchester South.

No one at the Paddington enquiry office could tell me whether these two stations were sufficiently adjacent for me to achieve this, because Dorchester South is a Southern Region station, and so neither geographically nor spiritually within their province. Waterloo enquiries felt the same way about Dorchester West. I decided to risk it, and in the end the point proved academic.

The train from Castle Cary was late, and as the guard pointed out with some asperity, "a Southern train won't wait for a connexion from a Western".

In reply to my inquiry about a possible later train from Dorchester South to Bournemouth, he explained that as a Western guard he was not expected to carry a Southern timetable. He was very sorry. "A few old Weymouth guards", he went on, "still carry the times in their heads. But not me."

The rickety collector at Bournemouth refused to believe I'd come from Taunton at all. I do see his point.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY WEST,
Garrick Theatre,
Charing Cross Road, WC2.

Wider police powers

From Mr Stephen Brown and Mr Richard Gordon

Sir, The tone of the new cautions suggested by the Metropolitan Police Commissioner for use by police officers in cases of detention and prior to a person being charged has a sinister aspect that is not noted in your editorial comment (August 4). It is this: at present the onus in such cases is on the police to prove the guilt of the suspect; the proposals of the Chief Commissioner are a shift of this onus on to the suspect to prove his innocence. Such a course is morally indefensible and genuinely frightening.

As residents of Northern Ireland we have learnt to accept a certain loss of "freedom" in the interests of the security forces' better operation against the criminals of that country; physical searching and questioning are everyday events for the people of Northern Ireland. The acceptance of this infringement upon personal privacy by the majority of those people depends greatly upon the belief that the measures are temporary and, hopefully, soon to be followed by a return to the standard of this country.

While we do not believe that searching and questioning would become everyday events in the life of the British, we neither believe that these infringements upon the privacy of those affected represent a reversible change in the law, but against crime in this country. It seems more likely that they would become a significant step in the direction of greater mutual suspicion and the fear of becoming "involved" in the eyes of the public at large, from action as the policeman's ally against the criminal.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN BROWN,
RICHARD GORDON,
St Catharine's College, Cambridge.

The Moscow Olympics

From Professor Marcus Wheeler

Sir, May I add two comments to your thoughtful editorial (August 2) and the earlier correspondence in your columns? First, it is a pity that the views of as wide a section as possible of the Soviet public should be ascertained. My guess is that a majority even of those critical of or apolitically indifferent to specific aspects of the present Soviet leadership would see more to be gained than lost in implementation of what you call the "open door policy".

Second, much care is needed in weighing arguments from ostensible historical precedents or analogies, such as the much cited 1936 Berlin Olympics. To illustrate the variety of morals which may be drawn, I would mention a more recent international event, the 1955 World Youth Festival held in Warsaw. If I am not mistaken, the renewed contacts with westerners made possible on that occasion, after the dark night of the Stalin era, positive if indirectly strengthened pressures for "deStalinisation" in Eastern Europe.

Yours faithfully,
MARCUS WHEELER,
Department of Slavonic Studies,
The Queen's University of Belfast, Belfast.

The passage of time

From Mr James O. H. Nason

Sir, Although Lord Chalfont, in his extensive travelling, must have circumnavigated the world several times over, it is clear from his article (August 7) that he does not know which way it goes round. When it is midnight GMT, it is seven o'clock in the evening in Lima and seven o'clock in the morning in Bangkok.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES NASON,
33 Dovedale Road, SE22.

An Irish backward glance

From Mr Rodney Morgan

Sir, It is refreshing to see that Irish historians can master their subject and retain a sense of humour. Gill and MacMillan, the Irish publishers, are currently advertising a volume entitled *The Modernisation of Irish Society 1848-1814*.

Yours sincerely,
RODNEY MORGAN,
University of Bath, School of Humanities and Social Studies,
Claverton Down, Bath.

Length of nautical mile

From the Hydrographer of the Navy

Sir, The basic unit of distance measurement at sea is, as Commander Kemp says (July 21), still the "Sea-Mile" which is defined as "the length of a meridian that subtends a minute of Latitude at the centre of the radius of curvature"; its length varies because the earth is not a perfect sphere and because of the various mathematical figures of the earth's shape that may be used. For example, the length of a Sea-Mile at the Equator is approximately 1,842 international metres and at the two Poles is of the order of 1,862 international metres.

Until 1970, the length of a "Nautical Mile" used in the United Kingdom was 6,080 feet, or 1,853.18 international metres; this is the length of a Sea-Mile in about Latitude 48°. As announced by Admiralty Notice to Mariners 1518/70, the United Kingdom adopted, in 1970, the "International Nautical

Mile" which is precisely 1,852 international metres and is the same length as a Sea-Mile in Latitude 45°.

As far as mariners are concerned, the adoption of the "round" value for the "Nautical Mile" was purely academic since they will always be taught to measure distances from the Latitude scale printed on charts; this caters for the variations in length at different Latitudes. Although such distances are often, and incorrectly, referred to as "Nautical Miles", they are really "Sea-Miles".

Commander Kemp and all other mariners may rest assured that I have neither altered the number of degrees in a circle nor the shape of the earth, nor do I have any plans to do so.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HASLAM,
Hydrographer of the Navy,
Ministry of Defence,
Old War Office Building,
Whitehall, SW1.

nation of women

The Rev Dr Kenneth G. Greet

may I be allowed to correct an error in your report (August 1) of an unorthodox debate on "ordination of women to the priesthood"? You link my name with Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican observers as one who is for restraint. What in fact was to share the experience of the Methodist Church, I indicated my decision to ordain women did up by two years. The first was that the practical problem of accepting women would be able. I indicated that the aim turned out to be mole-

entry of women into the priesthood is inevitable; that he claimed to be the Lord of the Sabbath; that it is indeed the duty of the church to safeguard every holy tradition—until the Lord of the Church shows us that it must be changed.

I concluded by expressing the conviction that the androcentric tradition of the past is changing irresistibly and that the churches which have ordained women see them as a sign of hope for the future.

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Westminster, SW1,
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Law and order: why we must beware of importing the American 'solution'

We often discuss the law-and-order problem within the framework of British society exclusively, and Americans are susceptible to a similarly blinkered outlook. But in fact the story of law-and-order politics is a chapter in the history of the Atlantic community. Considered in this proper light, it provides some useful lessons for those who advocate social reforms (to be found mainly in the Labour Party over here) and for others more deeply concerned with the diminution of violence and restoration of social stability (to be found, on the whole, in the Conservative Party).

In the eighteenth century, the Americans borrowed from British traditions of armed revolt and legitimate government of authority epitomized by Cromwell and Locke, respectively. The resultant Revolution of 1776 was as profound a shock to American conservatives as to British Tories. Subsequently the law-and-order question has time and again reoccupied a central place in American politics.

Since the Civil War of 1861-65, which did nothing whatever to nourish faith in United States social stability, Americans have tended to worry and to talk about two dangers in particular. In the "Progressive Era" that ended in the 1920s, there were fears of labour violence and its social-revolutionary undertones; in the 1960s, the overriding concern was over race riots and the danger of social disintegration. In both periods, the liberals in politics—those who wanted a welfare state and full racial equality—were prime fomenters of exaggerated fears of lawlessness and disorder, hoping to frighten the American electorate into voting for reform. But, in both periods, the spectre of anarchy provoked a backlash: the "Red Scare" in 1917, the election of Richard M. Nixon to the Presidency in 1968.

In due course, we borrowed from the Americans the ideology and political habits that we had exported to them in the eighteenth century. This became very evident in Conservative propaganda leading up to the 1970 general election. In May, 1969, Lord Harelech, a former British Ambassador to Washington and intimate of the Liberal President John F. Kennedy, argued that "national housing partnership" must be set up if Britain were

not to be faced with the violence prevalent in American cities.

In August, Enoch Powell observed that the Ulster problem had kinship to events in the United States, Paris and Berlin; there should be more control over immigration; investigations were no good—they only uncovered causes, which liberals turned into excuses for lawlessness and a rationale for reform. In January, 1970, Quintin Hogg (now Lord Hailsham) persuaded the Conservative Shadow Cabinet to exploit the law-and-order issue, called for stronger law enforcement, and attacked the Labour Government's failure to control anti-apartheid demonstrations. In March, Edward Heath joined the Conservative hierarchical chorus in demanding freedom from fear, and freedom to walk about the streets.

But three weeks before the general election, Conservative politicians dropped the law-

and-order issue to concentrate instead on the twin crises of adverse trade figures and inflation. The press followed suit, though in some cases reluctantly (in a leading editorial on May 27, the *Daily Telegraph* detected a "deficiency" in Tory law-and-order propaganda). Why was the issue dropped? The emergence of new issues was important, of course, but I would suggest that there is another, at least partial, explanation. This is that there was in reality no short-term law-and-order crisis—and if there had been, there would have been no immediate legislative cure. It was apparent that in America, two years of Nixon had brought neither a slump in the crime rate nor effective police reform.

For reasons such as these, in a relatively stable democracy the law-and-order issue may be used to undermine confidence in a particular administration or government, but will rarely

stand the test of calm, unhurried, political scrutiny. With rare political judgment, the Tories in 1970 dropped the issue in the nick of time, and did nothing about it in office.

Again, in 1978, prominent Conservatives have been heard sounding out the possibilities of the law-and-order issue. In February, William Whitelaw and David Howell spoke of a comprehensive law enforcement programme; in May, Margaret Thatcher criticized the violent practices of trade unionists; Teddy Taylor is making strenuous noises about the return of corporal punishment. In short, there is every indication that the 1978 issue is being regarded once again as a campaign asset. How, then, can we take stock of it?

I suggest that the American parallel is instructive. Certain contrasts, it is true, should be noted. To begin with, Lord Harelech apart, our liberals are not generally given to creating fears of unrest as a road to

make the electorate support reform. While in America conservatives have merely exploited the law-and-order issue presented to them by liberals, over here they have had to invent it for themselves. Secondly, the Irish question apart, there is no tradition in Britain of a serious propaganda connexion between racial tension and crime, and no slavery-linked, guilt-ridden social paranoia.

But with these exceptions, the character and consequences of United States law-and-order propaganda are now in evidence on this side of the Atlantic. Thus, whereas in consequence of backlist politics the Americans lost the chance of a welfare state in the 1920s and of greatly enhanced racial equality in the 1970s, in Britain we lost a good deal of the legislative programme proposed by the Labour Party in 1970 and may suffer similar losses in the future.

We are also in danger of sharing with the Americans another consequence of the distortion of violence. In 1963, experts hired by President Lyndon B. Johnson's Commission on Civil Disorders suggested that rhetoric about violence, even if based on illusions, caused real violence. In this country too, there is every possibility that Conservatives, who deplore violence, yet exploit it politically to undermine the very social stability which they favour.

Because we supplied the Americans with certain ideological raw materials in the Colonial era because of a continuing similarity in transatlantic spoken and political language, because of the dominating position of United States television and other communications media, and because we have an incipient race problem, it has become easy to import that highly-manufactured American product, law-and-orderism, and to assume it is fit for British conditions. Before we do so for the second time since 1969, however, we should consider its likely consequences for both social reform and social stability.

Rhodri Jeffreys Jones

The author is a lecturer in history at Edinburgh University. His latest book *Violence and Reform in American History* is due to be published in the autumn by Croom Helm, 2-10, John's Road, London, S.W.11.



Violence in the black district of Oakland, California, 1966.

Can the quarterlies have a 20th-century role?

Academics find themselves specializing in ever narrower fields and unable to communicate with their colleagues in other disciplines. let alone with those outside universities. Those in public life find their time increasingly taken up with committees and the other paraphernalia of bureaucracy . . .

Anthony Howard has recently written in *The Times* about the decline of the political weekly. Perhaps even more disturbing is the apparent total demise of the great quarterly reviews of the past century which combined serious literary and cultural criticism with essays on contemporary political and social themes and which had as their contributors the leading writers and men of affairs of their day.

Would such periodicals as the *Edinburgh Review*, the *Quarterly Review* and the *Westminster Review* find a readership if they were resurrected today? That was the question discussed by a distinguished group of academics at a recent conference at the New Universities Quarterly at a weekend conference at Wentworth Woodhouse, Sheffield, organized last month by Professor Boris Ford, of Bristol University.

The discussion centred particularly on the question of how far there is any longer a common culture in Britain of the kind that allowed the great nineteenth-century quarterlies to flourish. In a trenchant introductory paper, Dr Roger Poole, of the Department of English at Nottingham University, argued that for the past 100 years intellectuals had pursued a false idea of an educated and cultured minority, which probably never existed at all. Matthew Arnold, T. S. Eliot and F. R. Leavis had all appeared in their writings to this mythical concept of a critical and informed public, which,

he suggested, was purely an invention of the literary critics. "People are not serious," Dr Poole said, "and they don't like reading serious periodicals." He was extremely sceptical about attempts to set up serious quarterly reviews, such as the recently started *Poetry Nation Review*. Such ventures were doomed to failure in the contemporary British intellectual climate. He said: "There can be no serious journal in the absence of serious political life. There are no serious political ideas in England, only narrow self-interested prejudices."

A similarly pessimistic view was expressed by David Holbrook, the writer and critic, who lamented the relativism and nihilism of contemporary culture which he attributed to the reductionist attitudes to man encouraged by so-called "objective" science. While stressing the urgent need for a new journal which would give a sense of meaning and vision to British culture and politics, he was very doubtful if it could be started in the present intellectual climate.

A more optimistic view was offered by Mr Derek Oldfield, Dean of the School of Cultural and Community Studies at Sussex University, who found much that was positive and lively in contemporary British society and culture and who also recalled that even in the heyday of the *Westminster Review*, its assistant editor, George Eliot, had lamented how few people read it and how it was never on sale in the new railway station bookshops. Dr Krishnan Kumar, a senior lecturer in sociology at the University of Kent, pointed out that we lived now in what might be called the "Black and Decker" culture and that the magazines and periodicals which sold best were those in the field of do-it-yourself which encouraged their readers to take up constructive activities.

Professor Ford was concerned to find out from more diverse positions of influence and authority in society derived their moral and cultural values. He asked, "What books do MPs and ministers read? Where do the Treasury mandarins and

senior policy makers go for their ideas. Once it was to the quarterly reviews. Is it now to television and to the new brand of professional communicators? Who speaks to whom?"

Perhaps the key to the collapse of the quarterlies and of the common culture which they arguably helped to sustain lies in the very composition of the group which recently met to discuss their demise. With very few exceptions, its members were all working university teachers. A hundred years ago a weekend conference on the subject would have included politicians like Gladstone, higher journalists like John Morley, lawyers and civil servants like James Fitzjames Stephen, all of them regular contributors to the quarterlies, as well as academics and writers.

The trouble surely is that specialization has effectively separated English cultural, political and intellectual life into self-contained exclusive compartments. It is significant that the quarterly periodicals of the present day concentrate on single specialized subjects, indi-

cated by their titles, the *Political Quarterly*, the *Poetry Nation Review*, and even, though to a lesser extent, the *New Universities Quarterly* itself.

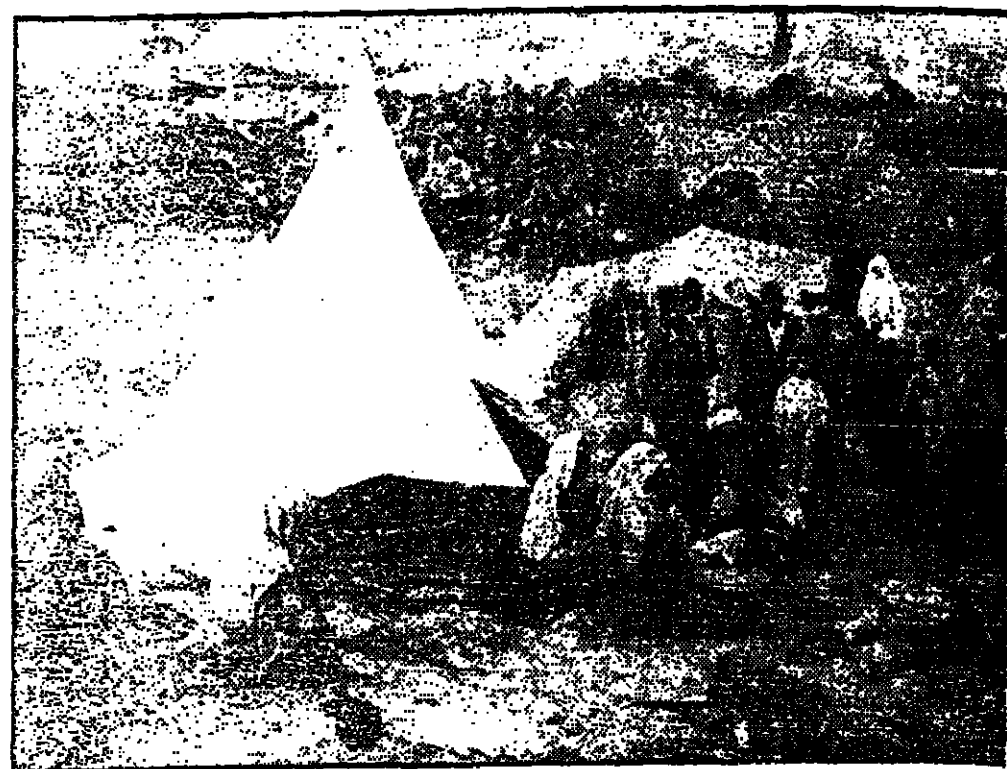
Academics find themselves specializing in ever narrower fields and unable to communicate with their colleagues in other disciplines, let alone with those outside the universities. Those in public life find their time increasingly taken up with committees and the other paraphernalia of bureaucracy and their capacity for reflection and serious thinking correspondingly limited.

What contemporary politician could ever hope to emulate Gladstone's achievement, while in high office, of translating Homer and writing serious works of theology? It was the product of a more leisurely lifestyle as well as of an exceptionally energetic character.

The great need in our day is, as Dr Richard Hoggart, the Warden of Goldsmiths' College, London, put it forcefully at the conference, for something that will bridge the widening gap between the doers and the thinkers, and break down the barriers caused by specialization.

It is to meet this need at one crucial level that the idea has been floated of a British equivalent of the Brookings Institute in the United States, an academy of more closely into the formation of public policy. Perhaps there is also a crucial role here for a revived version of the great nineteenth-century quarterlies.

Jan Bradley



Palestinian refugees, 1949.

An Israeli view of the Palestinian problem and who started it

I belong to the majority camp in Israel—that is, those who realize that the problem of self-determination for the Palestinians must be solved within the context of a general peace agreement with the Arabs, taking into account Israel's vital security requirements. I believe that the generally accepted claim that "the Palestinian problem is the heart of the Arab-Israeli dispute" is a distortion of the truth, and that in reality the Palestinian problem was created by the Arab-Israeli conflict. After five wars for survival, and the majority of my countrymen, believe that the willingness of the Arab countries to negotiate with Israel and to recognize her legitimacy, rather than the creation of an additional Palestinian Arab state in the West Bank, would lead to peace in the area.

The fluctuation of Egypt's relations with the Palestinians, the events of "Black September" in Jordan in 1970, "Black June" in Lebanon and lesser incidents in Arab countries are ample evidence of the true attitude of the Arabs to the Palestinian cause. Indeed, had it not been for the massive political and financial support of the Arab countries—out of self-interest or due to the Arab-Israeli conflict—the Palestinian problem would have assumed a normal dimension.

In May, 1948, five Arab countries invaded Palestine, defying the United States resolution to partition the country. The Arabs regarded Palestine as part of the "Arab homeland". But in addition to their determination to prevent the birth of Israel, some Arab rulers wished to annex parts of Palestine; others, in the interests of inter-Arab relations, tried to prevent them from doing so. None sincerely contemplated, at the time, a separate Palestinian political entity.

For 19 years, until 1967, the West Bank and Gaza were ruled by Jordan and Egypt respectively. The world accepted the fact and considered the Palestinians as a "refugee problem". Had the Arabs wished at that time to create a Palestinian state, they could have done so. However, the Palestinian cause in itself was of little consequence to them. On the other hand, the Palestinian refugees were considered a political asset in the struggle against Israel and attempts to settle them were regarded as hostile to Arab aspirations.

The PLO was not a natural growth, but was founded by the Arab League only in 1964-65, mainly as a result of inter-Arab rivalry and it remained an unimportant and ineffective organization until 1967.

After their defeat in the Six Day War, the Arabs began to revise the tactics which they used against Israel. In a changing West, where sedentary, organized wars of liberation and "guerrilla warfare" endeared themselves to the rising power of the New Left, the Palestinian problem was suc-

cessfully turned into a central motif in Arab propaganda warfare against Israel. By this time, messianic Pan-Arabism was rapidly declining, while the Arab national state triumphed. Left out in the cold, the Palestinians vainly attempted to establish their national state in Jordan, which they always claimed and where they constituted a great majority—and already controlled the politics, the administration and the economy. But the carnage of Black September marked the failure of this attempt, to some extent due to foreign intervention.

Israel has never disregarded the Palestinian problem and accepted a partial responsibility for its creation. Although she absorbed more Jewish refugees from Arab countries than the number of Palestinian Arabs who left her territory, she declared her willingness to accept 100,000 Palestinian refugees to settle in Israel, if the Arabs would agree to peace negotiations.

This offer was, however, ignored by the Arabs, who refused to recognize the legitimacy of Israel, Israeli intellectuals, motivated by humane as well as practical reasons were, nevertheless, preoccupied with the Palestinian problem long before 1967 and to some extent were responsible for the attention that it had received in the outside world before the Six Day War. Despite the euphoria that followed the country's victory in the war, the debate in Israel concerning peace with the Arabs and the related Palestinian problem was not to subside.

Dissatisfaction with the existing situation was noticeable among the younger generations of Israel and the intelligentsia before the war of 1973. These sentiments became dominant in the wake of the Yom Kippur War with the birth of the protest movements, recently incarnated in the "peace now" and other movements. Such movements, which flourished on Israel's deep desire for peace, introduced a new urgency and sensitivity into the country's politics concerning the occupied territories and the Palestinian issue.

Unfortunately, the Israeli mass peace movement and the open debate around the government's foreign and defence policy have no equivalent and reciprocity in the Arab countries and among the Palestinians. Indeed, most Arab leaders, motivated by inter-Arab politics and the instability of their regimes, are still exploiting the conflict with Israel and the Palestinian issue to further their own interests. Yet Israel is expected by major powers to accept Arab assurances that once she relinquishes the occupied territories and agrees to the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank, all will be well. In such circumstances, Israel would be extremely foolish to entrust her security to promises of tolerance or international guarantees (Egypt has demonstrated in 1957 and in 1967 that such promises and guarantees are worthless). The

fate of Czechoslovakia is fresh to forget in an undisciplined realpolitik.

The assassinations of P. "moderates" in London Paris and elsewhere, which have shaken Europe, attributed to the softer line which they have always taken concerning Israel, escapes the public's notice the fact that the social "moderates" have been responsible for the assassination of dozens of Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza who devoted to a large PLO leadership, were suspected of considerable recognition of Israel. Indeed from published minutes of meetings of the PLO committee it emerges that the difference between "moderates" and "extremists" regarding Israel is not over principle but tactics. Thus, despite the tremendous advantage to be gained from a pragmatic attitude towards the existence of Israel, the PLO is unwilling to give up domestic principles or claim the Palestinian Covenant.

In 1976 I was invited to testify before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives on "the problem of Palestinians". Testify before me were two P. spokesmen, both considered moderates, Professor Said and Professor Abu Lughod. B. avoided replying to the questions of the PLO's aspirations concerning Israel's territory, and what the PLO would be willing to recognize Israel if the latter agreed to recognize the PLO's right to self-determination. When pressed, he admitted that the PLO never agreed to recognize Israel's right to self-determination. The width of Israel's political borders on the West Bank less than that of Greater London and it is precisely in this area, that 70 per cent of Israel's population and economic resources are located.

It is inevitable that major public opinion in Israel only accepts a peace settlement which does not ignore Israeli security needs, and which allows for sufficient time processes leading to coexistence to mature. The lower of the profile of Arab hostility will then be reciprocated. Israeli territorial concessions determined by logical principles.

The Israelis also seek to preserve the Jewish democratic character of the country and are thus opposed to annexation, on moral or practical grounds. A desirable solution of the Palestinian problem is the one which eventually will unite the Palestinians within the context of Jordan-Palestine. Peace in the Middle East, however, depends on coming to terms with the Palestinians, rather than whether the Arab countries sincerely wish to come to terms with Israel.

Mordechai Al

The author is a professor at Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

ARTS DIARY

Pigeon-hole for reports on orchestras

The London orchestral world has waited in vain for the report, commissioned by the London Orchestral Concert Board from Sir Frank Figueres, into the difficulties, particularly the financial difficulties, of the four independent London orchestras.

Sir Frank has had to admit that he can come up with no really worthwhile proposals for improving the position of the orchestras. The concert board has considered his report and has concluded that it is "a non-event". The board will not be taking any action on it, nor will it be published.

With an honesty rare in such cases, Sir Frank confesses that his report might well be thought "a trifling contribution" to a very difficult situation.

Artistic standards are affected, and concert programmes are relatively unvaried because the inclusion of a contemporary or little-known work keeps audiences away, which in turn reduces box office takings.

If improvements are to be made more money must be found. The orchestras are trying hard to raise more through commercial sponsorship, but to bring about any far-reaching change there must be greater public subsidy, and there is no sign of that.

The filming of *Star Wars II* begins in London next February, before the cast and crew set off on location to the ends of the earth. A large stage is being constructed at Elstree Studios, and the film company is helping to finance the work. It will probably be a good investment, planning is under way on *Star Wars III*. (Will these galactic conflicts ever end?)

In the ranks of the London Philharmonic, the London Symphony, the Philharmonia and the Royal Philharmonic, there is general agreement that, in comparison with leading Continental and American orchestras, players in London are overworked and underpaid, forced to work very long hours to make a reasonable living.

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No love from Knowsley council

A feature of the relations between local councils and the

arts is that councillors sometimes seek to ban any arts events usually with the result that even more attention is given to it. Knowsley Borough Council, near Liverpool, seems to be keeping up the tradition.

Within the council boundaries is Kirby, a housing area built in the 1950s, which has become a byword for urban deprivation. In May the Everyman Theatre in Liverpool presented *Love and Kisses from Kirby*, a musical history of the area which provides a hilarious but somewhat jaundiced look at Kirby and its people.

It was so successful that the Everyman decided to perform it again the next month and planned to take it to Kirby. It booked a local theatre, the Kirby Suite, but reckoned without the council, which owns the building and promptly banned the performance. The councillors thought the play would "create a bad image as far as Kirby was concerned".

But they will not stop the Everyman. Using money provided by Liverpool newspapers to sponsor the show in Kirby, the theatre is now organizing subsidised bus trips for the people of Kirby to travel to Liverpool to see the show.



The BBC's policy of spending heavily on feature films for television seems to be continuing. Having already bought the rights for *The Sound of Music* and *The Sting*, I understand, they have acquired *The Towering Inferno*, at a cost for the three of £4.275m. Because each film will be shown many times, the BBC believes that represents excellent value. The unions in the television industry are less enthusiastic.

Belgian police hold Sir Roger

When a medieval wooden effigy, stolen from an English church, was noticed at the Ghent antiques fair and impounded by the Belgian police the church thought its troubles were over. That was three months ago and the church is still no nearer regaining its statue.

The fourteenth-century figure of Sir Roger de Burghfield was stolen in January from the Church of St Mary the Virgin at Burghfield, near Reading. Christopher Foley and his wife Sarah, who run Lane Fine Art in London, saw it in April on display at Ghent, priced at £10,000, although its real value is probably more than £30,000.

Back in Britain, they discovered from the *Antiques Trade Gazette* that it was stolen. The British police were told and they informed the Belgian police, who took possession of the effigy.

When the London Philharmonic Orchestra plays at the Usher Hall, Edinburgh, on August 25, in a farewell concert for Peter Diamond, the retiring director of the Edinburgh Festival, it will be conducted by Carlo Maria Giulini, Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim and Sir Alexander Gibson, all within an hour, which, as the PLO points out, must be something of a record.

Germans all over London

November should have a Germanic flavour in London: Working with many British organizations, the Goethe Institute is planning a month of events, under the title "The 70s meet the 20s", to examine the influences of the 1920s on modern arts and society.

Events range from an exhibition on the work of Mies van der Rohe, the architect, and the Bauhaus at the Building Centre to an Albert Hall concert by a Cologne orchestra. The ICA will exhibit Berlin art, with painters such as Grosz alongside modern, critical realists. It will also show films

from Berlin, and artists' film makers will visit London to discuss their work.

False messiah and asses

A new biblical epic is in making: next month, in T. S. Eliot's *Pythons' Life of Brian*, Terry Jones as director, not cast including Eric K. Michael Palin, John Cleese and Terry Gilliam.

It will feature a new development in Monty Python films: a definite plot, as how Brian, played by Graham Chapman, gets elected as Messiah, although he is not qualified for the job. The producer, John G. Stone, emphasized the modern relevance of the film, explaining that it was particularly concerned with revolution groups at the time of Christ and would show a great deal about present day political attitudes. That is the official line. The *Pythons* team say the final result is a bit of something completely different.

Martin Huckerl

Important figure in Chinese army affairs

while on his yacht near Cheroy-
gan in Northern Lower
Michigan.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Aug 7. Dealings End, Aug 18. § Contrango Day, Aug 21. Settlement Day, Aug 30.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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What future for
the industrial
training boards?
Page 19

EC joins forces with Fairchild to produce silicon chips in Britain

John Huxley
C has reached agreement
with Fairchild, the
American electronics company,
to produce silicon
chips in Britain.

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Fresh batch of unnamed companies on pay list

By Our Management Correspondent

Another batch of names has been added to the Government's black list of companies which have breached the pay guidelines. The Treasury confirmed yesterday that the number of companies identified by the Department of Employment as having broken the incomes restraint policy now stands at 74.

Of these 74 firms, none of which wishes its name to be published, are listed as having breached the phase three pay code. This compares with the 57 circulated to government purchasing departments on July 13 and the 24 listed on June 14.

The recent increase is bigger than it appears, since it is understood that at least 15 concerns have been removed from the list in the last month as no longer subject to discretionary action by the Government.

Among the latest additions are understood to be more than 20 individual meat traders employing porters on the Liverpool Stanley wholesale market, but the Treasury would not confirm this yesterday.

Before being placed on the blacklist the companies notified by the Treasury are requested to fill in a form stating whether or not they wish their name to be published, and to return this in an enclosed stamped addressed envelope. So far, the Treasury says, no company has agreed to its name being published.

The main sanctions invoked by the Government to compel companies to keep pay increases within the guidelines are in its public purchasing contracts. Purchasing departments are advised by the Treasury not to place business with offending firms.

But, in addition, sanctions may be invoked through the withdrawal of industrial assistance under the Industry Acts and temporary employment subsidy. Export credit available under section 2 of the Export Guarantees Act 1975 could also be affected.

Central Government deficit £1,000m up on past year's level but in line with Budget target

By Our Economics Staff

Central government spent less money last month than it received in 1977, and its deficit, enabling it to reduce its borrowings by £81m. This was revealed by the Treasury yesterday.

It means that after four months of the present financial year, the deficit of central government remains broadly in line with the forecast made at the time of the spring Budget. So far in 1978-79 the cumulative deficit (known as the central government borrowing requirement) is £2,500m.

Although this is nearly a £1,000m more than the deficit accumulated at this time last year, Mr Healey, the Chancellor, is budgeting for an overall increase in the 1978-79 borrowing requirement of some £3,000m.

This expected increase in the

BUDGET DEFICIT (£ million)

Financial year	National loans net lending	Deficit (-) from centralised fund	Other trans- actions	Central government market borrowing requirement
1977-78	944	5,216	-1,735	4,425
1977 Q1	215	-368	-11	572
Q2	584	-1,558	-414	1,734
Q3	47	-950	-539	2,774
Q4	282	-1,708	-781	3,715
1978 Q1	338	-932	-536	536
Q2	242	-2,582	-325	2,505
1978				
Jan	-57	-1,414	347	-1,124
Feb	-14	454	-63	377
March	309	1,862	-896	1,275
April	-108	388	174	452
May	398	1,472	-280	1,590
June	372	702	-219	855
July	207	128	-254	-81

Car makers urged to ease 'unfair' financial burden on dealers

By Clifford Webb

Introduction of a code of practice to prevent motor companies placing too big a financial burden on their dealers is advocated in a report out today.

It calls for British manufacturers to drop existing new-car financing methods in favour of more equitable schemes operated by several importers, and reveals that Vauxhall will be offering such a scheme to their dealers shortly.

In addition, BL Cars is said to be discussing a similar method with a consortium of finance houses. The report by the Sewell Profit and Information Unit, consultants to the motor trade, follows an investigation of all existing new-car stock financing schemes.

It recommends that dealers should not have to fund more than 30 days' stock, manufacturers should bear the cost of vehicles in transit from the factory, and dealers should not be held responsible for funding vehicles delivered in an unsaleable condition.

Manufacturers are attacked for "blackmailing" dealers in taking slow-selling cars and for forcing them to pay for advertising and promotion schemes. It also calls for compensation payments to dealers when model changes devalue existing stocks.

The report is particularly

critical of the bulk deposit stocking schemes used by Ford and BL Cars which require the dealer to lodge a sum of money proportional to his average sales over the previous 12 months.

In practice, however, stocks are often lower so the dealer can end up subsidizing the manufacturer.

Chrysler and Vauxhall require their dealers to pay for each vehicle as it leaves the factory, and this, Sewell claims, can cause cash flow problems because of frequent delivery delays.

On the other hand the so-called "floor plan" method used by Fiat, Volkswagen, Renault and Peugeot is found to be much more equitable. It involves a third party, usually a finance house, who pays the manufacturer for the car and then lends it to the dealer for resale.

The report is highly critical of the way manufacturers arrange deliveries from the factory to dealers. It says:

"The big problem is trade union militancy. Extreme delays in delivering cars are caused by almost deliberate stockpiling at the agents' compounds to ensure sufficient work for the delivery drivers in the weeks ahead. Use of dealers' own staff and of non-union labour is outlawed."

Venezuela's head says oil price rise imminent

Bogota, Aug. 9.—Senor Carlos Andres Perez, the Venezuelan President, said an oil price increase was imminent and it would help revive the deadlocked dialogue between rich and poor nations. He did not say when the increase would come.

The Venezuelan leader, in Bogota for the inauguration of the new Colombian President, Senor Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, told a press conference: "Oil must become the instrument to obtain better deals for the Third World."

"Prices will go up, not because the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is a selfish cartel, but because I believe it is the only system the Third World can use to put pressure on the industrialized countries to fix a policy on the prices of raw materials."

He added that Venezuela was also interested in a fair deal for coffee producers like Colombia, because economic problems in Colombia caused by lower coffee prices would also affect Venezuela. Reuters.

Meeting denied: In Vienna yesterday an Opec spokesman said he knew nothing about plans for an extraordinary meeting to discuss raising oil prices. "We know nothing about such a meeting," Mr. Hamid Zahr, Opec's chief of public relations, stated.

Shippers queue for Felixstowe as port of London languishes

By Michael Bailey
Shipping Correspondent

Shipping lines are queuing to get into the port of Felixstowe while London, 83 miles to the south, continues to decline.

"We could more than double our container traffic to about 400,000 boxes a year if we had the capacity," said Mr. Geoffrey Parker, the port's 41-year-old managing director who was appointed by European Ferries after the bitter takeover battle of two years ago.

The company is spending nearly £3m to raise capacity by 40 per cent. Improvements include six giant American-designed "transtainer" cranes at £320,000 each.

Since taking over, European Ferries have more than quadrupled investment in Felixstowe from less than £1m to around £4m a year. Besides the container terminal, they are spending £2m on a new passenger and ro/ro freight terminal, and about the same on general cargo and equipment, sheds and storage.

Why is traffic queuing for Felixstowe when other ports are desperate for work? "We have good geography, well set for industrial England and Europe," said Mr. Parker, "and our road communications are improving quite dramatically now. We still have a reputation



Mr Geoffrey Parker: Could more than double container traffic.

for good industrial relations. And being built from scratch we don't have the problems some other ports have."

Comparison with London's upper docks was not really valid because Felixstowe's growth was nearly all from unit load traffic which would never have gone to enclosed docks up river. But Tilbury was successful and competitive. The growth was coming both from existing customers such as Cunard, Hapag Lloyd, Medtainer and Sea-Land, and from new ones wanting to get in.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Restoring a free market economy

From Dr W. G. Scott

Sir, Today's article (August 3) entitled "Sir Geoffrey Howe: Tory priorities for the economy" emphasises again how far the Conservative Party has strayed from giving voice to free enterprise.

Throughout his remarks Sir Geoffrey assumes that some bureaucracy can impose health, vitality and creativity on the economy from above. . . . "To some extent we have a first class legislative superstructure on a second class economy."

This is the very antithesis of capitalism. Indeed, the assertion that "no market can work without people having some average view of the sort of limits within which they are conducting their bargaining" displays a basic failure to grasp the essential characteristics of a market.

A price is that level at which a particular good or service will find a willing buyer and seller. All participants in the market place are free to form their own view as to the worth of the service on offer. That a potential Conservative Chancellor of the Ex-

chequer has lost sight of this concept illustrates the insidious effect that nearly 30 years of statist (by any name) government has had. Throughout this period the labour market, to which Sir Geoffrey was referring, has been provided with a buyer of last resort in the form of a government fearful of unemployment. Thus no economic price level can be found.

In the same way the capital market has been dominated by a single borrower. Again no price level founded on economic reality can be reached. And this has been reflected in the violent movements of these markets.

State intervention at almost every level of endeavour has caused massive economic dislocations. In every case the dislocation can be traced to some interference with the normal working of the price mechanism.

Surely, the first task of a new Conservative administration must be to tear down the bureaucratic impediments to free market operation. Restore to individuals the freedom to direct their own lives; to

enjoy the fruits of the success and to suffer the consequences of their failure. In a budget practically could be achieved through balancing nature of the and the cost of the bureau

The millions of profited decisions made day in such a free economy will provide a clarity that no leg superstructure can equal

It is no accident the tions are increasingly sive. The two main have abandoned their in a common mediocrity that stasis mediocrity socialist than capital nature.

The Conservative should come out wholely for its traditional ples: small government enterprise; national pri

The efforts of the el rewarded fairly accord economic worth will rest.

Yours faithfully,
W. G. SCOTT,
Hotel Tresanton,
St Mawes,
Cornwall.
August 3.

Duties of the professional

From the Director-General of The Chartered Institute of Transport

Sir, Although informed and constructive comment and criticism are both healthy and helpful, may I be allowed to reply briefly to the attack on my institute—for such I judge it to be—by Mr D. F. Taylor (August 1).

Mr Taylor condemns my institute for failing to condemn some years ago, something which in his opinion ought to have been condemned. He is entitled to his views, as indeed are individual members of my institute (which represents all modes of transport and allied interests, not simply railways as Mr Taylor seems to infer).

He chooses to overlook the fact that, whatever the debate, the decisions taken on the Beeching report were in the event, political. Indeed, in all instances where policy is concerned—and transport is an exception—it is the political decision which must and will prevail.

Professionals, even so, whatever their sphere, have a definite part to play, individually or collectively as circumstances dictate, in the decision making process through their clear duty to advise and warn, where warning is appropriate, on the likely effects and conse-

quences of the various courses of action which may be proposed. Mr Taylor may accuse me of attempting to hide behind the stalking horse of political responsibility. I do not such thing but wish to emphasise that although professionals accept and carry out their duties in a responsible way, they also realise that they live in a real world.

I cannot accept the validity of the grounds on which Mr Taylor bases his criticisms and I hope he may ponder more deeply on the role and purposes—limitations—even—of professionals and professional institutes.

My original plea, which led to this exchange was for a greater recognition of and demand for, professional qualifications in management. Nothing Mr Taylor has said causes me to retract in any way as far as my own institute is concerned. However, in fairness to Mr Taylor may I offer him the freedom to develop his views as he may see fit which I will undertake to publish in my institute's journal.

D. N. LOCKE,
Director General,
The Chartered Institute of Transport,
80 Portland Place,
London, W1N 4DP.
August 3.

From Mr Keith J. Virgo
Sir, If inclusion of post in telephone directories feasible (Mr. Sim August 4) could they at cluded on road name thereby extending the which has been well fished in London, where name plates carry SW etc? This would at le the codes some val practical value in the the public.

The addition of WI even WD6 3A to the nar for my own road woul anyone seeking our boy vided, of course, th knew the code!

While on the general of the postal service, o PO not re-equip the with left-hand-drive vans, so that postma alight direct on to the p rather than risking the Yours faithfully,

KEITH J. VIRGO,
6 Wards Cottages,
Aldenhams Road,
(Letchmore Heath),
Elstree,
Hertfordshire WD6 3AF.
August 7.

Local company wins GLC dockland project

By Our Commercial Editor

Greater London Council's competition in which it offered a rent-free industrial site for five years and start-up aid of £5,000 will result in a paper processing plant being set up in the dockland area off Woolwich Road, Charlton.

Winners of the competition, the aim of which was to bring jobs back to derelict areas of dockland, are Raville, a Charlton company. Initially eight people will be employed in the plant and this could rise to about 12.

The GLC is satisfied with the result because the cost of securing the new jobs compares well with the £12,000 for every industrial job on average spent in government-assisted areas of the country.

Only two other companies put forward schemes, and the GLC hopes they may be interested in other development sites.

Submissions to Wilson committee call for abolition of exchange controls

By Bryan Appleyard

Two vigorous arguments in favour of the abolition of exchange controls have been submitted simultaneously as the latest batch of evidence to Sir Harold Wilson's committee reviewing the functioning of the financial institutions.

The first is from the Accepting House Committee. It does not criticise the application of exchange controls by the Bank of England, but it does feel that the restrictions themselves are excessive, particularly those on outward investment and on the holding of reserves in foreign currency.

It points out that its members, unlike manufacturers, are not protected against inflation by stock appreciation relief and the ability to raise prices, and this is affecting their ability to expand and meet foreign competitors.

It says the restriction on holding shareholders' capital in the form of foreign currency assets has compounded this problem.

The other batch of evidence comes from the Committee on Invisible Exports which estimates that net foreign income earned per capita by the City is £4,100 compared with £2,600 in manufacturing industry.

It points to the capacity for innovation within City institutions in the development of the Eurocurrency market, parallel money markets, syndicated loans for overseas governments, insurance cover for oil rigs and nuclear power, and the air charter market on the Baltic Exchange.

The committee points out that overseas investment is a necessity for the successful use of North Sea oil.

It calls for early removal of restrictions on the use of sterling credits in the finance of the country trade and of this: on the purchase of foreign currency for direct investment abroad; on the overseas investment of retained earnings; on the holding of foreign currencies, and the phasing out of the premium currency pool.

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Singer workers to pay levy for 'save jobs' study

Workers at the Singer sewing machine factory on Clydebank decided by a large majority yesterday to raise £25,000 to help to pay for a management consultants' study which, they hope, will save threatened jobs.

The American-owned company wants to axe 3,000 of the 4,800 jobs at the factory and phase out production of industrial sewing machines.

But the Scottish Development Agency announced on Tuesday that it would pay about £40,000 of government money towards a survey to find alternatives to this.

A mass meeting of workers voted yesterday for the study to go ahead, which will mean paying a weekly 50p levy out of their wage packets for the next 10 weeks. A shop stewards' spokesman said they would be asking the trade union movement for support.

To run the finances of a multi-market business like The Thomson Organisation, a man must be as multi-faceted as his company.

His banker must be the same



W. Michael Brown, Finance Director, The Thomson Organisation.

David A. Moring, Vice-President, Chemical Bank.

As Finance Director of The Thomson Organisation, Michael Brown must manage the financial resources and help assure the profitability of a large and rapidly growing group with interests in publishing, travel and petroleum.

Thomson publishes The Times, The Sunday Times, regional newspapers, books, Family Circle in the UK. Living, numerous trade, technical and educational publications in some ten countries around the world, owns Thomson Travel and its subsidiary Britannia Airways. Through an association with the Occidental Consortium, it is involved in the development of oil fields in the North Sea.

So Michael Brown must have

in-depth financial knowledge not only about Thomson's products, but about the countries in which Thomson operates. His Chemical Banker, David Moring, must have the same.

"David's understanding of our business is important," says Brown. "But so are the flexibility and fast response he and his Chemical Bankers come up with."

Working closely with Michael Brown, David Moring and his team have provided TTO's publishing interests with multi-purpose, multi-duration credit facilities in six local currencies exactly when required. In a half-hour meeting, they thrashed out an agreement in principle on a medium-term loan for North Sea oil development.

Through Chemco International Leasing, a Chemical Bank subsidiary, they helped Thomson's Britannia Airways lease a Boeing 737-200 in minimum time.

Says Brown, "Chemical Bankers things done because they don't like to go back to the head office for approval on every decision."

Obviously, Michael Brown works with other international banks. But David Moring's personal understanding of The Thomson Organisation's bank's flexibility are two important reasons their relationship continues to grow. That's what happens when financial executives get together with Chemical Bankers.

The difference in money is people. **CHEMICAL BANK**

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Euphoria in the equity market

Equity market really seems to have got bit between its teeth, rising another 9.2 to 516.2 yesterday with trading levels in very active for the second day running. In its present mood practically any durable construction can be found for such events.

The initial wary reception to the rise in the equity market, which brought an early setback in the theory of the jump was due chiefly to one-off factors. Whatever troubles the clearing is may experience in getting within the "fact" remains that the Government is still sticking to its monetary targets. This scale of rise, however, some nical reaction is likely in the next few weeks. The charts are now showing equities giving a distinctly overbought look about a, and there has been a spate of brokers' warnings about overdoing the euphoria in the face of deteriorating trends in the economy that look like developing next year.

ith Brothers

ernational irations

the collapse of Akroyd & Smithers' from £10.4m to a loss of £2.3m in half year to the end of March, the re- from fellow stockjobber Smithers will produce some sighs of relief. It is, of course, the crucial distinction between the two firms that Akroyd is active and Smith is not, and the message Smith is that, while equity jobbing has got tougher, it has continued to comfortably profitable. Thus, for the full year to the end of April Smith's profits were £824,000 to £1.15m, although the id half contribution of £443,000 was down from the first half's £704,000.

Smith points to the lower level of market activity during its second half, and shares were unquestionably weak in contrast to preceding period which embraced a peak in the FT Index to its all-time high. Stock Exchange turnover was not, in markedly lower, and it is disappointing Smith detected no significant increase in international business following the bonanza of the dollar premium surren-

that the planned merger with Bishop has fallen through, Smith is heless looking to international dealing to provide further momentum, and for the being has rejected any thoughts of going into the City. But any sign of a relaxed attitude from the Stock Exchange than it was prepared to show last on the issue of Smith dealing direct. South African dealers in gold shares, seems reasonably optimistic, but in pantime the shares, yielding 11.1 per cent, also have to contend with the of Fair Trading inquiry into Stock exchange restrictive practices.

ington Viyella

ises in

ington Viyella's £4.84m first half pre-tax was clearly below market expectations, ranged from £5m to as high as £8m. Company argues that last year's first half of £7.5m was exceptional and his magnifies the discrepancy. But it does not explain the low figure this time and the indications are that Carrington will have to run hard to match 1977's.

All the problems are the company's by any means. This past six months' loss maker, the carpet division, suffered from very poor demand and fierce competition, although it could now be picked again. The strength of sterling eroded profitability and could not be offset 4.6 per cent increase in exports to the promised improvement in demand. Consumer spending was disappointing, but better now, but the long-term control are still there. Import quotas to demonstrate that they will ease consumer sales and margins, and the from low cotton and artificial fibre prevailing at the end of 1977 are

wearing off. Equally ominous is the Government's intention to phase out Temporary Employment Subsidy on which Carrington, like other textile companies, is quite reliant.

The performance in the second half is likely to be somewhat better, particularly as consumer spending should be higher, but the outlook for 1979 remains cloudy and the 9 1/2 per cent yield at 38p is not much support for the shares after yesterday's disappointing results.

Letraset

Poised for further acquisition

Adverse currency movements took some of the gloss off Letraset's full year figures, but it still managed 12 per cent profits growth to £7.4m on turnover up by 17 per cent at £33.6m. With volume up by 6 per cent against 7 per cent the year before and a similar increase likely this year on roughly maintained margins, it is clear that the mainstream dry transfer business still has growth left in it. By itself it is probably heading for £8.6m this year but, with 55 per cent of the world market and the growth coming from increasing product presence in newer markets, the medium-term is dominated by the new areas into which Letraset decides to direct its phenomenally high cash flow.

As a preliminary move the acquisition of J. & L. Randall increases net worth from £12m to £20.3m and will leave cash, net of all borrowings, of £5.3m. Randall will contribute maintained profits of £725,000 from its toy business this year plus another £1.25m from its cash and equity portfolio.

But Letraset is in no hurry, partly because its institutional shareholders are nervous about any substantial change of direction, given the group's extraordinary successful current formula.

So high growth on the basis of a single product is evidently a thing of the past and the future depends critically on the quality of the acquisition. But it is, after all, a medium-term consideration and the firmness of this year's outlook indicates few worries about the shares at 144p yielding 5.6 per cent and selling at 8 1/2 times earnings.

General Accident

More optimistic than CU

General Accident is beginning to make a habit of catching stock markets on the hop. Earlier this year the group revealed first quarter figures a long way below City estimates and with that disappointment in mind dealers were busily marking down GA's shares ahead of yesterday's interim announcement. In the event profits up 30 per cent to £38.1m were comfortably ahead of most hopes and turned the shares around sharply to finish the day with a net gain of 10p at 242p.

On the underwriting front a particularly poor first quarter, due in part to bad weather on both sides of the Atlantic, has been followed by surprisingly good results in the second three months. A profit of £3.3m in this period has reduced the overall first-half deficit to £5.6m.

GA's ratio dropped to 98.6 per cent in the second quarter improving the first-half figure to 99.6 per cent and, unlike CU, General Accident claims it has seen no signs yet of the all-important American underwriting cycle beginning to turn down.

GA, of course, has been on a much slower recovery trend than others in the sector and thus could take longer to reach the peak. But now with UK business turning strongly into profit—£2.9m in the second quarter—helped by February motor rate increases the omens must be good for overall underwriting to achieve something better than break-even this year.

Meanwhile an impressive 19.2 per cent rise to £43.1m income from investments, reflecting partly the group's higher exposure to firming US short-term interest rates, helps point to profits rising by more than third to around £94m for the full-year. On this basis the shares sell at 6 1/2 times earnings and yield over 5 1/2 per cent and must be among the more attractive in the sector.

Economic notebook

Rights and wrongs of protectionism

Although the weight of official opinion in Britain remains firmly opposed to the generalised adoption of import controls, there is presumably some level of unemployment which would create a consensus in favour of erecting such a defensive wall around industry.

That is of course, if creeping protectionism had not in the meantime carried us a long way down that road.

Indeed, it is the latter course that is to be feared above all. For it would give us the worst of all possible worlds. Not only would we have embarked on a dubious course to an uncertain destination, but the journey would have been undertaken with the minimum of preparation and precious little consideration as to the purpose.

But on the assumption that protectionism of the creeping variety had not gone so far as to eliminate the choice, how high could unemployment go before generalized import restrictions became a serious policy option—two million, three million, four million?

Levels of unemployment such as these, in the 1980s, are predicted by most of the academic medium-term studies, underpinned by the fact that the forecast of three million people jobless by 1985 (if orthodox policies are pursued) made by the Cambridge Economic Policy Group, is just the best known such exercise.

The University of Warwick's Manpower Research Group (MRG), under the direction of Dr Robert Lindley, provided only a little more comfort last week with its prediction of 2.3 million registered unemployed by 1982. Two factors account for this pessimism.

First, there is the expectation that world trade will grow only slowly in the foreseeable future, and that Britain's own trade performance will remain weak. The second is the danger of expansion in the labour force that will occur in the next few years.

A large increase in the population of working age, and the trend towards later marriage, will both help boost the labour force by about one million between 1976 and 1982. Moreover, projected changes in the age structure imply particularly large increases in the number of young people entering the labour market.

Jobless rise

However, the most startling conclusion reached by the Manpower Research Group study is that efforts to regenerate the nation's manufacturing base through the Government's industrial strategy will actually lead to higher unemployment.

The problem is that the industrial strategy is likely to work mainly by promoting higher productivity growth. This, of course, will improve Britain's competitive position and its trade performance, and will increase the rate of expansion in manufacturing industry and in the services sector.

But, according to the MRG, these employment-creating effects will not be enough to offset the employment-reducing effects of the higher productivity growth. If it is assumed that only manufacturing productivity is raised and not the productivity of the rest of the economy.

Neither would enough jobs be created if the industrial strategy were accompanied by a reduction in the balance of payments constraints would be imposed on this strategy long before unemployment was significantly reduced. Furthermore, any such stimulation to the economy, provided through tax cuts, would bring us more quickly up against this constraint than if it came from public spending.

In other words, the two quite generally supported long-term policies, of industrial regenera-

tion and reducing the proportion of the tax burden borne by taxes on income, could make the employment situation worse. These policies can only be pursued if they are accompanied by import controls of a progressive valuation of the pound, according to MRG calculations.

But if import controls only feathered already inefficient industries, while devaluation exacerbates the inflation problem where does that leave us? This is where the distinction between creeping protectionism and a strategy of generalized import controls could be important.

Francis Cripps and Wynne Godley of the Department of Applied Economics, Cambridge, who are well-known advocates of the latter course, argue that their suggested policies would not lead to greater inefficiency. On the contrary, according to Cripps and Godley, if domestic demand was boosted behind a wall of import controls, this would assist innovation and productivity growth.

Conversely, creeping protectionism, we have seen, now reduces world trade, and thus leads to deflation and the propping up of obsolete industrial processes through subsidies.

The Cripps-Godley case turns crucially on two arguments. The first is that price and quality trends in international trade are sufficiently unequal and rigid as to lead to an increasing gap between the successful and unsuccessful countries, ultimately causing global deflation.

The second argument is that only with the higher output obtainable behind a bigger tariff wall will the basic problems of British industry be tackled.

Criticism of import controls, however, does not stem with the danger of feather-bedding. Such restrictions are held to be uneconomical because they improve the standard of living in the country imposing them at the expense of somebody else in the world. In an article to be published in the September issue of the Cambridge Journal of Economics, Cripps and Godley also attempt to meet this criticism.

They contend that if import controls are accompanied by fiscal stimulation, the total volume of other countries' trade will not be cut, at least provided that there is no retaliation, and that the country introducing import controls does not use them to secure a larger trade surplus or smaller trade deficit than it would otherwise have done. If these conditions are met, the effect of these controls on other countries is neutral.

Indeed, the result could be beneficial if, as a result of controls on imports, Britain found itself buying more from developing countries and less from countries with large trade surpluses like Japan and West Germany. This is because the developing nations could then, in turn, buy more from third countries, thereby raising the total level of world trade, production and employment.

Only if Britain bought more from Japan and West Germany and less from developing countries would its action be deflationary. In the latter case, it would add to the unenviable surplus of Japan and West Germany.

True, all of this does run smack up against the classical theory of trade, which describes nations as specializing in making products in which they have a comparative advantage. But Cripps and Godley held this classical theory to be wholly irrelevant in present circumstances, because it assumes full employment in each country.

Most unpalatable of all, however, is the certain knowledge that whatever course Britain takes will not be the result of a clear choice, but the haphazard response to events.

Melvyn Westlake

Industrial training boards: whose creature?

What is the future of industrial training boards? They are getting less and less money from the traditional source—industry—and increasingly face financial domination by the Manpower Services Commission.

The process has been inevitable since Mr Edward Heath's government passed the Employment Training Act, 1973—its last enactment before being ousted in February 1974—which introduced the levy exemption concept.

The idea of this is simple. If companies keep their training up to scratch, they are exempted from a 1 per cent levy on payroll. Twenty-three of the 24 boards raise a levy and since the passing of the Act they have been heading inexorably towards financial crossroads as more and more companies qualify for exemption.

By far the biggest of the boards, the Engineering Industry Training Board, is already at the junction because its net yield from levies is down to about £2m a year and still falling.

Only the Construction Industry Training Board, which has the dubious distinction of being the only ITB ever to "go broke", has persuaded ministers that such a mobile and unpredictable industry should not operate the levy exemption scheme. As for the rest, the inevitable consequence of the 1973 Act has been that boards have increasingly had to hold out the bat to the MSC in order to continue doing their job. Many boards are not happy about the implications of that.

Answerable to the wrong people

They worry that they will find themselves answerable eventually to the wrong people—that is, to the MSC instead of to industry. That involves the danger that the boards will become caught in the political mesh surrounding much of the activities of the MSC.

The commission has become a key instrument of the Government in mitigating—or hiding—the impact of unemployment and to that extent its role is heavily political. The Conservative Government has said that the commission will not be disbanded if they win the election, but it can safely be predicted that they will examine the present critical role of the MSC in national employment strategy. Almost certainly, the role of the boards would come in for review, too.

Meanwhile, the commission itself begins a review next year of the operation of the 1973 Act and is to report in 1980; clearly, it will look at the finances of the boards as a result of the levy exemption principle.

Trade unions would like the boards to receive more of the levy instead of having to grant so much in exemption to those



Mr. Joseph Moon, director of the Engineering Industry Training Board: the board's yield from levy is still falling.

companies that establish that they are performing an adequate training function.

Industry would be less than happy at such a proposition, but it is a serious possibility if Labour emerges with an election majority. The Conservatives would probably show little enthusiasm for such an idea because of the screams of protest it would evoke from industry.

A strong body of opinion in Whitehall and the upper echelons of the MSC believes that the monetary autonomy of the boards should be preserved—the word will soon have to be "reestablished". Inevitably, in considering possible schemes to achieve that, the commission's review will decide whether the present 1 per cent levy should be increased, but such a proposition would in any case be highly unlikely to get parliamentary approval under any government.

The 4,500 staff of the training boards must wonder what the future holds, but everybody is anxious to reassure them that their future is secure. That may be so, but there is no denying that the past autonomy of the boards is being eroded. No longer will they be left to decide the needs of their respective industries without sparing a thought for the wider, national needs of the country.

Their insularity has contributed to skill shortages in times of boom and slump, with the intolerable results that export orders have been lost because of shortages of key labour.

The MSC, now charged with overall statutory responsibility for the training boards, is pushing them to take a wider view. It has asked them for proposals by this autumn for the training and further education needs of industry to be implemented in 'Autumn' next year under the Training for Skills programme, which has a £60m government back-up.

In rather pointed terms the boards have been reminded that their proposals must provide

for opportunities to train in skills "from a national point of view"—further confirmation that the days of autonomy and insularity are gone.

The whole concept of levy exemption, while theoretically good in giving companies a financial impetus to get and keep their training up to standard has its faults. Has it not actively encouraged companies to look after their own house and to hell with the rest?

Many people remain wary of the MSC, not only because of an irrational scepticism excited by any government agency that grows at such a speed. Nearly every Budget seems to bring a new bequest and the training boards understandably wonder how eventually they are going to fit into this massive new organization.

The ITBs cover 55 per cent of the employed labour force. Since the review of the Employment Training Act will not be completed for a few years, they will in the immediate future have to put up with their increasing reliance on MSC funds.

Given that unemployment will continue to rise, the Government (especially a Labour government) will be pre-occupied with social objectives and the training boards will be dragged into that. The danger is that they will lose their identity as a part of industry because of the heavy political pressures now bearing down on them.

More accountable to government through the MSC

The more public money that is pumped into them, the more they become accountable to the Government through the MSC and ultimately to the public. It is decided whether they are to be creatures of industry or creatures of government. At present they appear to have one foot in each camp.

The MSC has given them £37m a year for industry and administrative costs, £18m for key training activities and £40m to £50m for each of the past three years (and promised for a fourth) for special training measures to counter the effects of the recession, such as keeping apprenticeships going.

An undoubted criticism of the boards in the past has been their failure to coordinate their efforts and the MSC in its review will be considering if further steps are needed. One option might be to put them under one agency, with staff employed centrally, which could lead to a greater advisory role for the boards and fewer administrative burdens.

Whatever the outcome of the review, it will be of critical importance to the boards. It is regrettable that they have been allowed to drift into such a state of uncertainty, but in a few years' time their destiny will be mapped out more clearly.

Christopher Thomas

Business Diary: Where's your code, Sir William?

More than a year since the Office promised to introduce a code of practice, would make it to its customers, but the long-term control are still there. Import quotas to demonstrate that they will ease consumer sales and margins, and the from low cotton and artificial fibre prevailing at the end of 1977 are

According to the Post Office the task of drafting the code is "terribly difficult", but it still hopes that it may be completed this year. POUNC says that the part of the code relating to postal services has "virtually" had to go back to square one. It thinks that it may only be

when a replacement is found for its late chairman, Lord Peddie, that real progress will be made.

The Office of Fair Trading, which is also involved, says that "everything is proceeding according to plan, but it does now rest with the Post Office to provide some initiative".

Jimmy Carter signed an historic piece of legislation in New York City this week, giving the city \$1,850m (£850m) in federal government loan guarantees, which was duly cheered by a crowd of some 5,000 New Yorkers.

The hero of the day, however, was not the smiling President, but the modest banker that stood next to him on the podium in front of City Hall, Felix Rohatyn.

Rohatyn, who has been called the city's chief financial surgeon, has worked furiously over the past few years as unpaid chairman of the city's Municipal Assistance Corporation to save the city from bankruptcy.

It was his idea to try to get government loan guarantees when he promoted it over a year ago few people believed that the city could obtain such a huge sum of money.

Well, they did and Rohatyn, having now brought the city to the point where it no longer need fear bankruptcy, at least for a few years, he has decided to resign his part-time public office and return to Lazard Freres where he is a partner.

While business people will cheer at this decision of Rohatyn, a takeover expert, there are pressures for him to return to public life, either in New York or in Washington.

The New York Daily News has summed up the matter with an editorial saying that Rohatyn "is too valuable a man to be allowed to return quietly to private life".

After taking a battering from MPs in Parliament and from both Roy Hattersley and Gordon Borrie, the Director-General of Fair Trading, at a

recent consumer conference in London, the European commission has gone to the unusual length of issuing a four-page press statement to rebut criticism of its proposed directive on business practices.

The commission's language is carefully measured compared with that of MPs, who vied with each other to pile insults on the unfortunate directive.

"The debate", says the much-maligned commission, "showed some misunderstanding of the basis and the content of the proposal".

Then the press statement goes on patiently to spell out once again that the proposed directive will not affect milk deliveries, emergency breakdown services or hire purchase contracts. It also denies once again that application of the directive to United Kingdom mail-order firms would create additional paper work to the tune of an extra 780 million pieces of paper a year.

It simply points out that the measure is still being discussed by a working group in the Council of Ministers and that everyone is concerned to see that it emerges in a sensible form.

Those men who have yet to adjust to women's preference for tight over stockings may note with grim satisfaction that, according to today's CBI/NEDO survey, trends in Textiles and Clothing "subsequently, particularly in fashion and, and, continue to perform indifferently... there appears to be an element of de-stocking."

Ross Davies



It can take the Post Office more than a year to deliver: left to right, PO chairman Sir William Barlow and Sally Oppenheim MP.

GLYNWED

INTERIM RESULTS

Trading Results

Group profit before taxation for the 26 weeks ended 1st July 1978 amounted to £8,459,000 compared with £8,120,000 for the corresponding period of 1977.

The improvement on the corresponding period last year arises principally from the elimination of all significant losses in the UK activities. In particular, bathroom and kitchen products and foundries improved their performance during the first few months of the year. At the same time sheet steel stockholding, which lost over £1m in the year 1977, has produced a modest profit. As already announced, the proposed sale of this division did not take place.

The South African subsidiary, of which the Group now owns only 68.5%, has suffered difficult trading conditions which coincided with the acquisition with effect from 1st April 1978 of the domestic appliance business of South African General Electric (Pty) Ltd. The rationalisation of distribution networks together with other benefits will take some time to materialise and a loss has therefore been sustained in the first six months of the year.

Ordinary Dividends and Prospects

The Directors have declared an interim dividend for the 52 weeks ending 30th December 1978 of 2.45p per share (1977 - same) payable on 20th December 1978 to Ordinary shareholders on the Register at close of business on 4th September 1978.

The outlook for the second six months of the year depends on the maintenance of the present level of economic activity and on some recovery in South Africa. Given these circumstances, profits for the second half should be at least equal to those for the first six months.

The unaudited results of the Group for the 26 weeks ended 1st July 1978, together with the published figures for the corresponding period of the previous year and the final audited figures for the 53 weeks ended 31st December 1977 are summarised below:

	1978 26 weeks to 1st July	1977 26 weeks to 26th June	1977 53 weeks to 31st December
Turnover of the Group	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000
Group Trading Profit	165,280	138,345	285,440
Interest Charges	70,272	7,938	18,559
Group Profit Before Taxation	1,813	1,818	3,532
Taxation	8,459	6,120	13,027
Group Profit After Taxation	4,437	3,114	6,504
Minority Interests	4,022	3,006	6,523
Group Profit Before Extraordinary Items	84	(56)	(47)
Extraordinary Items	4,086	2,950	6,476
Group Profit After Extraordinary Items	4,086	2,950	6,476
Dividends:			
Preference	35	35	70
Ordinary	pps	pps	pps
Interim	2.45	1.599	2.45
Final	1,599	1,636	2.45
			1,636
			5.76
			3,727

Note: UK Taxation on the profits of the 26 weeks ended 1st July 1978 has been estimated on the basis of 52% Corporation Tax. (1977 - same) Overseas Taxation has been estimated at the appropriate rate.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Hume revenue reaches £2.2m

A switch in investment policy at Hume Holdings, accompanied by a rise in pre-tax revenue from £2.05m to a record £2.22m for the year to June 30 last.

The investment trust is following its policy of reducing its property exposure by selling its stake in its associate, Scottish Life Hume Properties to Scottish Life Assurance. Also the Australian subsidiary, Westlyn Investments has sold its property assets.

Sales proceeds are to be reinvested in equities—some £4.3m in the United Kingdom and about £795,000 in the United States. Assuming cur-

rent yields, the board expects gross income from the portfolio to result in an increase in gross revenue of about £300,000 in the current year, over the income which would have arisen if the property interests had been maintained.

The effect of the sales has been taken into account in calculating net asset value a share at June 30 of 98.3p, which compares with 86p a year earlier. Earnings a share were 7.48p against 6.01p, and the board proposes a dividend of 6.87p, against 5.52p, for the current year, an interim of 2.5p against 2.25p gross is declared.

The group, in which Rothschild Investment Trust has a 27.02 per cent stake and London & Manchester Assurance a new 7 per cent holding, bought its shareholding through its shareholding in Scottish Life Hume Properties in 1963 and it has been a major plank in the group's property portfolio. The original cost of the investment was £123,000. It was revalued professionally at £23.7m in June 1977, and the sale was for £22m. The group's total £253,000 in 1968. The liquidation proceeds are expected to be about £1.05m, and should be received by September 30.

Best-ever figures expected at Wardle

By Rosemary Unsworth

Pre-tax profits of the PVC processing group, Bernard Wardle, dropped seven per cent to £561,000 for the 28 weeks to June 11, 1978. The fall follows "difficult trading conditions in the first quarter," says the chairman, Mr Derek Boothman.

But he stresses that profits of £587,000 attributable to the recent £2.6m purchase of the Armidale stocks have not been included in the half-year results but, "a significant portion of these exceptional profits will be included in the year-end results."

Group managing director, Mr John Sharpe, said yesterday that since the group was taken over by the general economy of the country—and there was a

motor trade boom—the board was expecting record results for the year and a "satisfactory" second half.

However, the group's Dutch subsidiary, Schotte, suffered a £92,000 loss, although Mr Boothman says, "this drain on our resources has been stopped, subject to no further worsening of the Dutch economic climate."

The Dutch loss also means that the tax rate charged against the first-half results is high at £336,000, against £204,000.

The interim dividend is up by 10 per cent to 0.8p gross, and the board hopes that the total dividend will reflect any improvement in profitability, although it will be considered in the light of government legislation.

Glynwed up by nearly 40pc in first half as UK losses are cut

By Ronald Pullen

A five-year spell of uninspiring profits at last looks to be decisively coming to an end at Glynwed, the engineering, building products and steel stockholding group.

Pre-tax profits in the 26 weeks to the start of July improved by almost two-thirds to £4.46m. And even though Glynwed is not yet seeing any follow-through in steel and engineering from the vaunted pick-up in industrial activity, it is still looking for a repeat performance in the second half, pointing to a full-year turnover of at least £17m, against the previous year's depressed £13m.

Loss elimination in the United Kingdom, however,

accounts for virtually all the improvement. Sheet steel, where the failure to consummate the sale of Cashmore to the Italians has caused a hiccup in the group's plans, turned round from a loss of £650,000 in the first half (and £1m for the year) to a small profit of £30,000. Foundries, helped by some £650,000 from temporary employment subsidies, broke even after a loss the year before of £400,000, while the bathroom and kitchen products operation is too new washing its face after losses of £600,000 the year previously. Otherwise the only area to show real growth has been gas appliances which has moved from a small loss to a profit of £800,000.

It is South Africa then remains the Achilles' heel of the group where there has been a £1.2m turnaround to loss £400,000 in the opening. However, the South African subsidiary is now in a position to recoup first half losses in the second half.

The South African deal General Electric has further strain on the balance sheet where gear around 80 per cent although there is scope to do some with the £18m deferred element. The shares at 13p to 124p where the increase is 11 per cent.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

Esso Overseas Finance N.V.

9% Guaranteed Debentures Due 1985.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of September 15, 1970 providing for the above Debentures, said Debentures aggregating \$3,000,000 principal amount have been selected for redemption on September 15, 1978, through operation of the Sinking Fund, at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to said date. Of the amount to be redeemed \$1,500,000 represents the selection of the mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption and \$1,500,000 represents election by the Company to make an optional additional Sinking Fund payment. The serial numbers of the Debentures selected for redemption are as follows:

DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH

124	2349	2378	2322	4701	5904	6903	3114	3311	10549	11724	12685	13091	13215	18550	17747	18887
125	2350	2379	2323	4702	5905	6904	3115	3312	10550	11725	12686	13092	13216	18551	17748	18888
126	2351	2380	2324	4703	5906	6905	3116	3313	10551	11726	12687	13093	13217	18552	17749	18889
127	2352	2381	2325	4704	5907	6906	3117	3314	10552	11727	12688	13094	13218	18553	17750	18890
128	2353	2382	2326	4705	5908	6907	3118	3315	10553	11728	12689	13095	13219	18554	17751	18891
129	2354	2383	2327	4706	5909	6908	3119	3316	10554	11729	12690	13096	13220	18555	17752	18892
130	2355	2384	2328	4707	5910	6909	3120	3317	10555	11730	12691	13097	13221	18556	17753	18893
131	2356	2385	2329	4708	5911	6910	3121	3318	10556	11731	12692	13098	13222	18557	17754	18894
132	2357	2386	2330	4709	5912	6911	3122	3319	10557	11732	12693	13099	13223	18558	17755	18895
133	2358	2387	2331	4710	5913	6912	3123	3320	10558	11733	12694	13100	13224	18559	17756	18896
134	2359	2388	2332	4711	5914	6913	3124	3321	10559	11734	12695	13101	13225	18560	17757	18897
135	2360	2389	2333	4712	5915	6914	3125	3322	10560	11735	12696	13102	13226	18561	17758	18898
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137	2362	2391	2335	4714	5917	6916	3127	3324	10562	11737	12698	13104	13228	18563	17760	18900
138	2363	2392	2336	4715	5918	6917	3128	3325	10563	11738	12699	13105	13229	18564	17761	18901
139	2364	2393	2337	4716	5919	6918	3129	3326	10564	11739	12700	13106	13230	18565	17762	18902
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141	2366	2395	2339	4718	5921	6920	3131	3328	10566	11741	12702	13108	13232	18567	17764	18904
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144	2369	2398	2342	4721	5924	6923	3134	3331	10569	11744	12705	13111	13235	18570	17767	18907
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152	2377	2406	2350	4729	5932	6931	3142	3339	10577	11752	12713	13119	13243	18578	17775	18915
153	2378	2407	2351	4730	5933	6932	3143	3340	10578	11753	12714	13120	13244	18579	17776	18916
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198	2423	2452	2396	4775	5978	6977	3188	3385	10623	11798	12759	13165	13289	18624	17821	18961
199	2424	2453	2397	4776	5979	6978	3189	3386								

